

**NIGHT+DAY eLetter archives at**  
[NightandDayGuides.com](#)  
[Download this eLetter as a pdf](#)

**On The Side:**

- Don't-Miss Events**
- Ins and Outs**
- New in Print**
- Special Offers**



**THE RIGHT PLACE. THE RIGHT TIME. IT MATTERS.**

**NIGHT+DAY's Absolutely-Don't-Miss Upcoming Events (Nov.-Jan.)**

During these three months there are 17 don't-miss events (as rated by NIGHT+DAY writers and editors) in the world's coolest cities. Click below for details. And start packing!

**NIGHT+DAY'S TOP 5 EVENTS**

**AMSTERDAM**

[The Cannabis Cup \(November\)](#)

**LONDON**

[Hogmanay \(December\)](#)

**MIAMI**

[Art Basel Miami Beach \(December\)](#)

**NEW YORK**

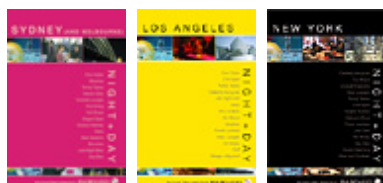
[Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade \(November\)](#)

**SYDNEY**

[Melbourne Cup \(November\)](#)

[The "Cool Cities" Calendars](#)

**ALWAYS CURRENT**



**NIGHT+DAY Your Way to 15 Cities**

No other guidebook captures the urbanista experience like **Night+Day**. And now, thanks to free and regularly updated recommendations available from our website, your **Night+Day** guide stays current.

### In This Issue:

At the Top: [It's Spring Down Under](#)

THE WORLD'S BEST [Museums](#)

Ins and Outs (NIGHT+DAY's Latest Recommendations): [Top 5 New Openings](#)

Alan's View

ASD Picks: [Three "Even I Was Surprised" Travel Lessons](#)

Last Word: [Thanks a Lot](#)

### At the Top: It's Spring Down Under



In San Francisco, **Night+Day** headquarters, as well as in most of the world's coolest cities right now, we're hunkering in for a long winter, starting with early rains. But in Australia, it's spring, which for Australians and partygoers worldwide means just one thing: the **Melbourne Cup** ([melbournecup.com](#)), the country's famed thoroughbred horse race. Held since 1861, the event is a major

holiday in Melbourne, and much of the country flocks to the southeast metropolis to get in on the action. Although the races are slightly less famous than London's Royal Ascot, the Melbies can put on a hat and a party along with the best of them. Note that while the biggest race is on Tuesday, November 3, the fashion show (and the fun) peaks at the Crown Oaks Day races on Thursday, November 5.

Take along **Night+Day Sydney** (with more than 75 pages devoted to Melbourne) to help you find the perfect hotel, the hottest restaurants and nightlife, and the best places to shop. Be sure to do some wine tasting in the Yarra Valley, just 40 miles east of the city.

If you have time, a short flight (1½ hours) will put you in Sydney, Australia's cultural capital. Check out **Sculpture by the Sea** at Bondi Beach ([sculpturebythesea.com](#)), one of the best annual art events, which runs through the third Sunday in November.

Throw in Ayers Rock (stay at Latitude 131) and Lizard Island, and you'll have the perfect Australia vacation. Trust us: This is a sure bet.

### THE WORLD'S BEST Museums

These can't-miss museums offer an array of attractions designed to mesmerize art addicts and curious gallery-goers alike. Distinguished by their modern art masterpieces, architectural triumphs, oddball collections, or undeniable cool factor, these are the best-in-class museums in the world's hottest cities.

#### AMSTERDAM • RIJSKMUSEUM • BEST ART MUSEUMS



**The Draw:** The massive collection of Golden Age paintings includes such masterpieces as Vermeer's *The Kitchen Maid* and Rembrandt's *The Jewish Bride* and *The Night Watch*.

**The Scene:** The imposing building, designed by Pierre Cuypers and completed in 1885, houses one of the world's most significant collections of paintings and creates the perfect atmosphere for Old-World culture.

**Hot Tip:** Come on a weekday to avoid the crowd, opt for the informative audio tour, and jump the line by purchasing an entrance ticket in advance on the museum's website.

[See all 3 of the Best Art Museums in AMSTERDAM](#)

#### LOS ANGELES • GETTY VILLA • BEST COOL MUSEUMS



**The Draw:** The Getty has one of the world's greatest collections of ancient

What they say about **Night+Day**...

**The Times of London**: "It's unlikely that you'll find another guidebook as detailed as this." "Well-researched, well-organized and original" from **USA Today**. And the **San Francisco Chronicle** names it "the best of the trend-setting lot."

To order, [click here](#).

**BUY 2, GET 1 FREE,**

**And Support Your Local Bookstore**

Buy 2 **NIGHT+DAY** guides from your local bookstore, and we'll send you your choice of a third guide for FREE! [More Details](#)

### Ins and Outs

It doesn't get better than this: the 50 latest NIGHT+DAY recommendations for each of the world's coolest cities, including a closures list for venues that have appeared in NIGHT+DAY guides. It's easy to download the pdfs. And it's FREE.

- [Amsterdam](#)
- [Athens](#)
- [Chicago](#)
- [DC](#)
- [Las Vegas](#)
- [London](#)
- [Los Angeles](#)
- [Mexico City](#)
- [Miami](#)
- [New York](#)
- [Paris](#)
- [San Francisco](#)
- [Sydney](#)
- [Toronto](#)

NIGHT+DAY  
NEW ORLEANS

Second  
Edition  
Available  
Now

"New Orleans **Night+Day**  
Cool Cities guide has got  
New Orleans' numbers"  
—Judy Walker Food Editor,  
*The Times-Picayune*

**INVITE A FRIEND TO NIGHT+DAY**  
**Why be the only one with all the best travel recommendations?**  
[Invite your friends and associates to subscribe to the free monthly NIGHT+DAY eLetter, or forward this eLetter to them.](#)



art, some 44,000 pieces, covering Greek, Roman, and Etruscan antiquities—all in a blow-your-mind beautiful setting.

**The Scene:** Since the Getty Villa hands out a limited number of tickets, you find yourself wandering through the main building, the long fountain courtyard, and the herb garden without bumping into masses of people. The audio for the self-guided tour means you can do so while in your own world.

**Hot Tip:** Plan your visit around a performance in the Getty Villa amphitheater. And note: Same-day tickets are sometimes available on the website.

[See all 3 of the Best Cool Museums in LOS ANGELES](#)

## NEW YORK • COOPER-HEWITT, NATIONAL DESIGN MUSEUM BEST UNUSUAL MUSEUMS



**The Draw:** This New York member of the Smithsonian is the only museum in the United States devoted exclusively to historic and contemporary design.

**The Scene:** The museum is divided into four areas: Product Design and Decorative Arts; Drawings, Prints, and Graphic Design; Textiles; and Wall Coverings. In addition to 60,000 books, you'll also find blueprints for crucial works of architecture, decorative arts, gardens, and interiors.

**Hot Tip:** Don't miss rare Michelangelo drawings or furniture design sketches by renowned architect Frank Lloyd Wright.

[See all 3 of the Best Unusual Museums in NEW YORK](#)

[Discover the Best Museums in other Night+Day cities.](#)

## INS and OUTS (NIGHT+DAY'S Latest Recommendations)

### Top 5 New Recommendations

**DC • THE JEFFERSON • Timeless Hotel**

[jeffersondc.com](#)

An extensive, two-year renovation completed in August 2009 kept a bit of the best of the hotel's former self—its Beaux Arts architecture, its displays of original documents signed by Thomas Jefferson—but otherwise transformed the property. Jefferson's spirit reigns: Toile drapes in the guest rooms reflect designs in textiles that Jefferson brought home from France; 18th-century maps hanging in Quill, the bar, trace Jefferson's journeys through Europe's wine regions.

[full review](#)

\$\$\$\$ 1200 16th St. NW (M St.), 202-448-2300

**LAS VEGAS • HOTEL 32 • Modern Hotel**

[hotel32lasvegas.com](#)

The new hotel within a hotel, located on the top floor of the Monte Carlo, has a private porte cochere, an express elevator, and in-suite check-in, so you'll never have to mix with the hoi polloi if you don't want to. Rooms range from studios to two-bedroom palaces and include all the latest high-tech gizmos, from BluRay DVD players to iHome docking stations. [full review](#)

\$\$ 3770 Las Vegas Blvd. S. (Rue de Monte Carlo), 877-576-3232

**SAN FRANCISCO • FLOUR + WATER • Italian Restaurant**

[flourandwater.com](#)

Simple, elemental food, much of it cooked in a wood-burning oven that reaches 900 degrees, is at the heart of Flour + Water's menu. Pizza in particular is what makes this place a destination.

Don't look for pies tricked out with fancy ingredients. There are only four on offer, each thin-crust and lightly topped, cooked for a maximum of two minutes. [full review](#)

Daily 5:30pm–midnight.

\$\$ 2401 Harrison St. (20th St.), 415-826-7000

**TORONTO • SAMOVAR • Lounge**

[samovarroom.com](#)

Located on the top floor of the historic Winchester Hotel in Cabbagetown, Samovar is the third Russian bar opened by local Rumen Dimitroff (who also launched Pravda and owns Rasputin Vodka Bar). Samovar benefits from its Old-World roots—the original long mahogany bar is a perfect centerpiece for the fashionable to belly up and enjoy vodka, absinthe, Champagne, and caviar. [full review](#)

Thu–Sat 7pm–2am.

51 Winchester St. (Parliament St.), 416-925-4555

## SYDNEY • THE POND • International Restaurant and Bar

[findthepond.com.au](http://findthepond.com.au)

Sydney's dining scene has welcomed a whole new breed—the “pop-up” restaurant. These underground dining experiences are run by people who host dinner parties for strangers in their own homes. The popular trend has now gone mainstream with The Pond, the latest offering from the folk behind iconic beer brand Pure Blonde. [full review](#)

*Wed–Sun noon–1am.*

\$\$ 32 Burton St. (Langley St.)

### The Night+Day Promise

**Night+Day** writers and editors use the same high standards in selecting and researching venues to be included in our **Ins and Outs** updates as we do for our books. Our local correspondents determine which new hot spots are the real deal and which are simply hype—just as you'd expect from **Night+Day**—to provide the kind of reliable information you need to make the best possible choices.

---

## ALAN'S VIEW, November 2009



As executive editor of the **Night+Day** series, and as someone who has spent a lifetime in travel, I certainly influence our selections and recommendations. But our guidebooks reflect a collaborative effort involving local writers and experienced editors. So I welcome this opportunity to share my very personal views and experiences. I sincerely hope you find them somewhere between interesting and extremely helpful (life-altering is probably too much to ask). As always, I very much welcome your comments.

[Click here to send me an email](#)

[ASD Picks: Three “Even I Was Surprised” Travel Lessons](#)

[Last Word: Thanks a Lot](#)

### ASD Picks: Three “Even I Was Surprised” Travel Lessons

With all the research, planning, and traveling I do, I don't expect to encounter many surprises. But the old adage, “never assume,” is true. Allow me to share recent experiences that offered these three lessons.

#### 1. You really can get ripped off at foreign exchange windows.

I usually prepare in advance for my cash needs in foreign countries, but recently in Paris I needed to exchange dollars for euros. The results shattered my assumption that there were only minor differences among currency exchange bureaus. An exchange on Rue du Rivoli offered me 280 euros for \$500 cash, which seemed low to me, so I went back to the hotel to find a better service and rate. [Read more](#)

#### 2. You are *not* entitled to a room upgrade at W Hotels, whatever your Gold Preferred status may promise.

Ten stays at Starwood hotels earn you Gold Preferred status, which means, among other things, that “you're entitled to an automatic room upgrade at check-in when one is available.” Until recently, I believed it was just a coincidence that for each of my last six stays at W hotels, no upgraded rooms were in fact available. But now I know better—it is simply false advertising.

I checked into W Union Square Hotel in New York not long ago. As the hotel desk clerk was checking me in, I asked if I had indeed received an upgrade. He assured me that I had been upgraded to a very nice Mega room. I thought I had booked a Mega room, but since it was late, my confirmation was on my computer, and his tone was so reassuring, I didn't bother to check. When I got to the room I confirmed my suspicion. [Read more](#)

#### 3. You really are being taped.

How many times have you made a phone call to customer service and heard the line, “Your call may be monitored to ensure quality service”? You probably assumed that meant random or occasional monitoring, right? [Read more](#)

### Last Word: Thanks a Lot

Hitting close to home for those of us in publishing, the *New York Times* just announced layoffs of 100 of its newsroom staff, and we're going to face 2010 without *Gourmet* magazine, among many other good publications. For many of us this is going to be a Thanksgiving in which we have to dig deep to reach what we're thankful for—things like family, friends, and, hopefully, health (but not health care). It is going to be a season when we master our skills at looking at the

world as a glass that's half full, and put aside those dashed Obama-inspired hopes for world peace and a quick economic recovery. It's unlikely that anyone is better off today than a year ago, unless you happen to be working for Goldman Sachs. [Read more](#)