



- MOVIES: EQUALIZER 2
- BOOK: THE MERE WIFE BY MARIA DAHVANA HEADLEY
- MUSIC: TAKE ME TO THE DISCO BY MEG MYERS
- WINE: THE ICON OF SERBIA II
- F&B: AJI FIRST TO SHOWCASE NIKKEI CUISINE



When you can book every aspect of a trip online, in minutes, why would you use a travel agent? And how do you find a good one? Answers inside Extra

TRAVELOG

Beth J. Harpaz, AP Travel Editor

Erika Richter, communications director for the American Society of Travel Agents, joined this week's episode of the AP Travel podcast "Get Outta Here!" to explain how travel agents work and how to find one. Here are some excerpts from the podcast, edited for brevity and clarity.

AGENTS, ADVISERS AND HOW TO FIND ONE

Richter says the term "travel agent" is being replaced by the term "travel adviser" because of a "shift in our industry ... Gone are the days where travel agents are just ticket bookers. Think of them as holistic advisers." The American Society of Travel Agents has a consumer-facing website, TravelSense.org, which allows you to search a database of vetted, qualified travel professionals who follow ASTA's code of ethics. You can search by expertise or even location if you want an agent nearby.

BRICK-AND-MORTAR OR PHONE AND EMAIL?

Richter says 40 percent of travel advisers "work from home," but some are "digital nomads" who travel while they work. "The world is their office," she said. One agent she knows "only sells destinations that he's lived in for six months. ... Right now he's in Southeast Asia because before he adds the destination to his list, he wants to know the ins

TRAVEL AGENTS: How to find



and outs. He wants to know the people on the ground, to shake their hands. He wants to know the thread count on the sheets

and the best cocktails on the menu." Other agents are geared to cultivating local customers and might

even "meet a client for lunch" or visit them at home to get to know their family. Some customers simply shoot them a text

when they need a flight booked. Traditional brick-and-mortar locations still exist, too, but even those are changing. Richter says an agency called Departure Lounge in Austin, Texas, hosts events — like a tasting with a winery from a destination — to engage potential customers.

WHEN TO USE A TRAVEL AGENT

Are travelers wasting an agent's time if all they need is a quick flight somewhere and they see a cheap fare online they can book themselves?

"If you're just going on a routine visit to see grandma in New Orleans, you can probably handle that yourself. But what if grandma in New Orleans is on her deathbed and you're stuck in Phoenix because you missed your connection?" Richter said. "It might help to have an advocate in your corner who can quickly fix that for you. ... No matter how short a trip or how small the budget, there are things that can be done to enhance the experience." She added that when things go wrong and you've booked your trip through a third-party website, "you are the last person anyone cares to assist," Richter said. "You've chosen the price over guaranteeing the

DRIVE IN

Mark Kennedy, AP Entertainment Writer

DENZEL WASHINGTON KILLS IN 'THE EQUALIZER 2'

You won't usually find Denzel Washington in a movie sequel. He just doesn't do them. Something about not wanting to repeat himself. So there must be something special indeed for him to break his own rule for "The Equalizer 2." Fans of the first film will instantly know why Washington is drawn to the character of Robert McCall, a quiet middle-aged retired special-ops agent who fiercely believes in justice, likes to help others and dispenses the occasional lethal judgement for those deserving. "We all have to pay for our sins," he tells a group of very bad guys in the new, highly satisfying edition, before vowing to hunt each one dead. His only regret? He can kill them only once. "The Equalizer 2" reconnects many of the people behind the 2014 debut alongside the always-vital Washington — Antoine Fuqua returns to direct, as does wri-

ter Richard Wenk, and actors Bill Pullman and Melissa Leo. McCall first appeared in the mid-1980s on TV with Edward Woodward playing him as a bit of an English dandy. In the film series, Washington plays McCall as a tad obsessive-compulsive, but not consistently. He's the kind of guy who brings his own tea bag to a restaurant in a neatly folded napkin and arranges the cutlery just so. But, when prompted, his vision suddenly becomes hyper-clear and he meticulously pre-plans every step in taking down a room of thugs, often without a gun. He's like Monk crossed with Sherlock Holmes. In the first film, a hooker with a heart of gold pulls McCall out of retirement when she is badly beaten by her pimp. By the end, McCall has blown up most of Boston's waterfront, exposed a nest of corrupt local cops and systematically executed every member of a Russian gang, even

going to Moscow to finish the job. The second film takes place sometime later, with McCall now a Lyft driver, selectively helping people he encounters. He's kind to old people (a Holocaust survivor, for extra depth) and little kids, who adore him. He mentors a troubled teen (Ashton Sanders), hoping to steer him away from drug dealing and toward art school. Few people could pull off this cheesy sainthood like Washington, oozing charisma and self-assured masculinity. The film somewhat confusingly toggles through various initial threads before landing on the main one — someone crucial to McCall's murky past is murdered in Brussels and that reveals a barrel of bad government apples. The film thus strays far from its roots as a vehicle for McCall to be the avenging angel for a needy stranger. But we get to see McCall solve the crime from



Denzel Washington in a scene from "Equalizer 2"

his Boston apartment by putting himself in the crime scene like an episode of "Crossing Jordan" and then avenge the death. Oh, there's also a hurricane crashing up the East coast, timed for the climax, a little over the top if we're being honest. Fuqua is a lyrical director who directed Washington to an Oscar in "Training Day." He's not afraid to spend time in the still darkness with McCall and likes to focus on small moody elements, like rain hitting the gutters. But he can also deliver red meat: A sequence in which McCall fights off a passenger in the back seat of his car is a mini-masterpiece of taut, sinewy direction.

Wenk also has written some juicy dialogue for Washington, including a monologue about individual responsibility he delivers to the young artist in a project stairwell that the actor bites into with obvious relish. (It's only somewhat marred by the cliché of him putting a gun muzzle to his own temple and goading the younger man to pull the trigger. "Five pounds of pressure is all it takes!" he says.) "The Equalizer" is a guilty pleasure for anyone who enjoys that old-school, blue-collar American chivalric hero with a dark past. The one who was in "The Quiet Man" and behind the mask in Batman. He's the kind of guy who cauterizes his own wounds,

never permits collateral damage when he's on a killing spree, wears a knit polo to a showdown with four heavily armed tactical fighters, and reads great books of literature to honor his beloved dead wife.

He's cool, with moral clarity and he's three moves ahead of everyone. No wonder he's such a welcome sight in 2018 America and no wonder Washington wanted another go-around.

"The Equalizer 2," a Columbia Pictures release, is rated R by the Motion Picture Association of America for "brutal violence throughout, language and some drug content." Running time: 120 minutes. ★★☆☆

a good one and how they can help



trip and customer service. When you book with a travel adviser, you're getting personalized 24/7 support from a human, not a chat bot or website."

HOW DO AGENTS MAKE THEIR MONEY?

Some charge planning fees — as little as USD25, or more depending on the complexity of the trip.

Others get commissions. So what do you say to consumers who worry that an agent working on commission will upsell their trip — book them into more expensive accommodations than they would otherwise want — in order to increase their commission? First of all, travelers should let agents know what their budget is

at the beginning of any trip-planning consultation. But Richter says consumers should also realize that an agent's suppliers — hotels, resorts, airlines, cruises — are "often giving them better deals on inventory, and that trickles back down" to the consumer, Richter said. "You're going to get your money's worth whether there's a fee or no fee

because you're getting access that other consumers don't get. You can get things like free breakfast or a room upgrade and that's because the travel buyer has those personal relationships because they're buying in bulk as a travel agency." Richter says travel professionals are also expert at making the most of your travel budget,

whatever that budget might be. Typically travelers look to save money on hotels, "but what about dining and excursions and other activities that add up?" Richter said. "What if you could save big in those areas with free breakfasts or better rates on tours that come with the perks of booking with an agent? That impacts the overall budget and maybe brings the cost of the hotel into perspective. Maybe you find a cheap hotel but your travel agent says you'll end up spending most your time in a taxi because the hotel is 30 miles away from anything you want to see or do." Agents can even help if you're using points to book a chain hotel: "They know a whole heck of a lot when it comes to maximizing your points value."

CUSTOMIZING TRIPS

What if you're seeking a quirky itinerary with unique activities in offbeat destinations?

A good travel agent should be able to "recommend everything down to the best markets and local restaurants, to give you a mix of highlights and other off-the-beaten path sides of things. The whole itinerary should and will be customized based on the feedback and interest that you provide," Richter said. "Sometimes you just want to do things that you simply can't Google. You want something that's highly specialized and unique and that's what we're here for."

BOOK IT

'THE MERE WIFE' EXPLORES 'BEOWULF' IN THE SUBURBS

Maria Dahvana Headley's new novel, "The Mere Wife," is much more than a simple recasting of the ancient epic poem "Beowulf" in the suburbs. It's "The Stepford Wives," 9/11 and English class thrown into a lyrical blender, and it's kind of glorious.

For those who forgot the poem immediately after high school, "Beowulf" is the Anglo-Saxon classic about a warrior who saves a kingdom first from the monster Grendel, then Grendel's mother and then a dragon. Headley, who also is working on a new translation of "Beowulf," subverts the epic by exploring its good-versus-evil battle from the perspective of women who were largely left on the margins by the ancient bards. Grendel's mother even gets a name:



"The Mere Wife" (MCD and Farrar, Straus and Giroux), by Maria Dahvana Headley

Dana Mills, a former soldier from the wrong side of the tracks exiled to a mountain. When her son Gren crosses paths with the prince of a nearby gated community, she encounters a formidable foe in suburban ice queen Willa Herot. The hero is supposed to be local police officer Ben Woolf. The bards already covered his heroics, so Headley cleverly reflects on his shortcomings. He's no match for his wife's ambitious mother, let alone

Gren's overprotective mom. Gren and Dana threaten Willa's routine, her low-carb diet and her tasteful decor. But are they really monsters? It's hard to tell when everyone ends up covered in blood.

You don't have to remember "Beowulf" to get what Headley is saying here: a monster lives in every mirror, and every enemy is someone else's hero.

Jennifer Kay, AP

tTUNES

If you assume from the title of Meg Myers' new album that she's taken a fun and frivolous turn, you'll be sorely mistaken. Thrilled, but very mistaken.

The superb "Take Me to the Disco" finds Myers angry, anguished, raw and obsessed with mortality. Take just three song titles from the rocker's sophomore album — "The Death of Me," "Little Black Death" and "Funeral." Oblivion is never very far on the 12-track album. In "Tear Me to Pieces," she notes: "The rapture's trying to kill me." On "Done" she vows to "rip right through your beating heart." As the Talking Heads might say, "This ain't no party, this ain't no disco/This ain't no fooling around."

Myers definitely isn't fooling around and there's no denying the woman's sheer talent, both as a songwriter and as a singer who can go from kittenish to face-melting in the same song. "Take Me to the Disco" is Myers' first album since she left a major label to go independent following her excellent 2015 debut "Sorry," which drew comparisons to Alanis Morissette.

The corporate breakup inspired the independence anthem,

MEG MYERS IS ANGRY, ANGUISHED, EXCITING ON NEW ALBUM

"Numb," a grungy masterpiece. "You think you want the best for me," she sings. "But nothing really matters/If you force it, it won't come/I guess I'm feeling numb." It's the best kiss-off to a record company since Sara Bareilles' "Love Song." Myers has turned to Christian "Leggy" Langdon to co-write nine of the songs and produce the album. He also adds vocals to "The Death of Me," which may remind some of Gotye's "Somebody That I Used to Know." They've added a string section for six songs, which nicely add texture, especially on the dark Nine Inch Nails-like "Jealous Sea."

If Myers reminded some of Morissette on the last album, this one will recall Kate Bush, especially the standout "Tourniquet" and the moody "Some People," which conjures up a smoke-filled lake at night. Every song shows off an ex-



Meg Myers, "Take Me to the Disco" (300 Entertainment)

citing artist, like on "Done," where you breathlessly wait for her to build to her roar.

"Little Black Death" might be the closest to a disco song Myers has on the new album — a techno banger with lyrics in the grave — but we didn't come to dance. We came to bow before a genuine rock goddess.

Mark Kennedy, AP
Entertainment Writer

WORLD OF BACCHUS

Jacky I.F. Cheong



**VINARIJA ALEKSANDROVIĆ
TRIJUMF SELECTION 2016**

An innovative yet time-honoured blend of 85% Sauvignon Blanc and a combined 15% Pinot Blanc and Riesling, sourced from south- and southeast-facing vineyards between 250 and 350m above sea level, vinified sur lie and entirely in stainless steel tanks without any oak influence. Limpid citrine with shimmering golden reflex, the mischievous noses oozes elderberry, gooseberry, crushed shells and cat's pee. Braced by racy acidity and palpable minerality, the playful palate radiates guava, passion fruit, crushed leaves and flint. Refreshingly bone-dry (merely 0.7g/l residual sugar) Medium-bodied at 13.7%, the tangy entry continues through a gingery mid-palate, leading to a spicy finish. A Slavic jester in a bottle, perhaps the most amusing of all.



**VINARIJA ALEKSANDROVIĆ
REGENT RESERVE 2013**

A classic Bordelais blend of Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot in equal parts, sourced from south- and southeast-facing vineyards between 250 and 350m above sea level; 15 months in Frnehc barriques is followed by 15 months in 4,000l Slavonian barrels, and a further 12 months in bottle. Reddish black with cardinal-ruby rim, the unfathomable nose reveals black cherry, mulberry, clove, dark chocolate and pencil shavings. Buttressed by profuse acidity and abundant tannins, the profound palate unveils cassis, damson, black pepper, caffè espresso and graphite. Full-bodied at 13.5%, the dense entry persists through an impenetrable mid-palate, leading to a potent finish. An ageworthy wine of the aristocratically reticent type.

(Continued from "The Icon of Serbia" on 18 May 2018)

Covering some 88,000 sqkm (with Kosovo) or 77,000 sqkm (without Kosovo) and with a population of just over 7 million, Serbia is by some distance the largest and most populous amongst all post-Yugoslav states. At its peak during the 1970s, Yugoslavia was one of the top ten wine-producing countries in the world, with roughly 220,000ha of vineyards, equivalent to modern-day Languedoc-Roussillon of France. South Africa is often raised as the archetypical example of how politics and wine interact with each other, but it can be argued that Serbian wine provides yet a better case study. During Tito's rule from 1953 to 1980 and beyond, Yugoslavia used to be one of the few countries in Europe that was aligned with neither NATO nor Warsaw Pact, hence its wine industry did not suffer as catastrophically as Bulgaria's or Moldova's in the late 1980s, when Mikhail Gorbachev's vine pull scheme – part of the "Make Soviet Union Sober Again" campaign – came into effect. The wine industry of former Yugoslav states, however, was badly damaged during the decade-long Yugoslav Wars from 1991 to 2001. By the time Serbia and Montenegro, the last remnant of the multi-ethnic former Yugoslavia, broke up in 2006, peace and political stability finally returned to Serbia arguably for the first time over a quarter of a century, not coinciding with but resulting in a much-awaited vinous renaissance. Latitudinally on a par with southern France and northern Spain, modern-day Serbia, arguably the most romanised region of the Balkans, has been producing wine since time immemorial. Whereas northern Ser-

The Icon of Serbia II

bia is part of the Pannonian Plain, southern Serbia is an extension of the Carpathian Mountains, and the majority of Serbian wine is produced in regions near the Danube. As Serbia's vinous renaissance moved into full swing, the country's nine traditional wine regions (Timok, Nišava-South Morava, West Morava, Šumadija-Great Morava, Pocerina, Srem, Banat, Subotica-Horgoš and Kosovo) are being reclassified into 22 new regions without subregions. Depending on sources, Serbia has between 25,000 and 70,000ha of vineyards, some 120,000 vine growers and 400 wineries, producing 2/3 whites and 1/3 reds. In addition to its heritage varieties (e.g. Prokupac and Tamjanika) and indigenous varieties (e.g. Afus Ali, Dinka, Krstač, Smederevka and Vranac), Franco-German varieties make up the rest of Serbia's vinous portfolio. With renewed interest and incoming investment, and not least the inception of In Vino and Beo Wine Fair in 2004 and 2010 respectively, Serbia's wine industry has been substantially improved and modernised. On the forefront of the Serbian vinous renaissance is Vinarija Aleksandrović, whose high quality wines are amongst the first to represent Serbia on the international stage. Renowned for its association with the former royal house of Karađorđević, this historic estate possesses some of the country's finest vineyards in the heart of the Šumadija District of central Serbia.

To be continued one day...

Ex-château samples supplied by Vinarija Aleksandrović (www.vinarijaaleksandrovic.rs), whose representatives regularly participate in major wine fairs in the Greater China area.

Jacky I.F. Cheong is a legal professional by day and columnist by night. Having spent his formative years in Britain, France, and Germany, he regularly writes about wine, fine arts, classical music, and politics in several languages

RESTAURANTS

CANTONESE



IMPERIAL COURT
Monday - Friday
11am - 3pm / 6pm - 11pm
Saturday, Sunday & Public Holidays
10am - 3pm / 3pm - 11pm
T: 8802 2361
VIP Hotel Lobby, MGM MACAU

BEIJING KITCHEN
Level 1, Grand Hyatt Macau
Opening Hours
11:30am - 24:00



KAM LAI HEEN
Grand Lapa, Macau
956-1110 Avenida da Amizade, 2/F
T: 8793 3821
11:00 - 15:00 / 18:00 - 22:00
(Close on Tuesday)

SHANGHAI MIN
Level 1, The Shops at The Boulevard
Opening Hours
11:00 - 15:00; 18:00 - 22:30

SHANGHAI

CATALPA GARDEN
Mon - Sunday
11:00 - 15:00 / 17:30 - 23:00
Hotel Royal, 2-4
Estrada da Vitoria
T: 28552222

FRENCH

**寶雅座
AUX BEAUX ARTS**

AUX BEAUX ARTS
Monday - Friday
6pm - 12midnight
Saturday - Sunday
11am - 12midnight
T: 8802 2319
Grande Praça, MGM MACAU



BRASSERIE
Level 3, The Parisian Macau
Monday - Sunday:
11:00am - 11:00pm
Tel: +853 8111 9200

GLOBAL

CAFÉ BELA VISTA
Grand Lapa, Macau
T: 87933871
Mon -Thurs
06:30 - 15:00 / 6:00 - 22:00
Fri - Sunday
06:30 - 22:00

MEZZA9 MACAU
Level 3, Grand Hyatt Macau
Opening Hours
Dinner: 5:30 - 11:00



VIDA RICA (RESTAURANT)
2/F, Avenida Dr Sun Yat Sen, NAPE
T: 8805 8918
Mon - Sunday
6:30 - 14:30 / 18:00 - 23:00



MORTON'S OF CHICAGO
The Venetian(r) Macao-Resort-Hotel
Taipa, Macau
T:853 8117 5000
mortons.com
• Bar
Open daily at 3pm
• Dining Room
Monday - Saturday: 13:00 - 23:00
Sunday: 17:00 - 22:00

ABA BAR

ABA BAR
5pm - 12midnight
T: 8802 2319
Grande Praça, MGM MACAU

COPA STEAKHOUSE
3/F, Sands Macao Hotel
OPENING HOURS:
Cocktails: 4:30 pm - 12:00 am
Dinner: 5:30 pm - 11:00 pm
Tel: +853 8983 8222



PASTRY BAR
10am - 8pm
T: 8802 2324
Level 1, MGM MACAU



ROSSIO
7am - 11pm
T: 8802 2372
Grande Praça, MGM MACAU



NORTH BY SQUARE EIGHT
11am - 1am
T: 8802 2388
Level 1, MGM MACAU



SOUTH BY SQUARE EIGHT
24hrs
T: 8802 2389
Level 1, MGM MACAU

ITALIAN

LA GONDOLA
Mon - Sunday
11:00am - 11:00pm
Praia de Cheoc Van, Coloane,
next to swimming pool
T: 2888 0156



PORTOFINO
Casino Level1, Shop 1039,
The Venetian Macao
TEL: +853 8118 9950



FW RIO GRILL & SEAFOOD MARKET
Tel: (853) 8799 6338
Email : riogrill_and_seafoodmarket@fishermanswharf.com.mo
Location: Cape Town, Macau Fisherman's Wharf

JAPANESE

SHINJI BY KANESAKA
Level 1, Crown Towers
Lunch 12:00 - 15:00
Dinner 18:00 - 23:00
Closed on
Tuesday (Lunch and Dinner)
Wednesday (Lunch)

ASIAN PACIFIC



GOLDEN PEACOCK
Casino Level1, Shop 1037,
The Venetian Macao
TEL: +853 8118 9696
Monday - Sunday:
11:00 - 23:00

PORTUGUESE

CLUBE MILITAR
975 Avenida da Praia Grande
T: 2871 4000
12:30 - 15:00 / 19:00 - 23:00

FERNANDO'S
9 Praia de Hac Sa, Coloane
T: 2888 2264
12:00 - 21:30

THAI



NAAM
Grand Lapa, Macau
956-1110 Avenida da Amizade, The Resort
T: 8793 4818
12:00 - 14:30 / 18:30 - 22:30
(Close on Mondays)

BARS & PUBS



38 LOUNGE
Altrira Macau,
Avenida de Kwong Tung, 38/F Taipa
Sun-Thu: 13:00 - 02:00
Fri, Sat and Eve of public holiday:
15:00 - 03:00

R BAR
Level 1, Hard Rock Hotel
Opening Hours
Sun to Thu:
11:00 - 23:00
Fri & Sat:
11:00 - 24:00

THE ST. REGIS BAR
Level One, The St. Regis Macao
Cuisine: Light Fare
Atmosphere: Multi-Concept Bar
Setting: Refined, Inviting
Serving Style: Bar Menu
Dress Code: Casual
Hours: 12:00 PM - 1:00 AM; Afternoon Tea:
2:00PM - 5:30 PM
Phone: +853 8113 3700
Email: stregisbar.macao@stregis.com



D2
Macau Fisherman's Wharf
Edf. New Orleans III
Macau

VIDA RICA BAR
2/F, Avenida Dr. Sun Yat Sen, NAPE
T: 8805 8928
Monday to Thursday: 12:00 - 00:00
Friday: 12:00 - 01:00
Saturday: 14:00 - 01:00
Sunday: 14:00 - 00:00

VASCO
Grand Lapa, Macau
956-1110 Avenida da Amizade, 2/F
T: 8793 3831
Monday to Thursday: 18:30 - 12:00
Friday to Saturday: 18:00 - 02:00
Sunday: 18:00 - 24:00

FOOD & BEVERAGE

Lynzy Valles, MDT

AJI FIRST TO SHOWCASE NIKKEI CUISINE

Combining traditional Peruvian cuisine with Japanese techniques, Aji at MGM Cotai is the first local restaurant to showcase the unique Nikkei cuisine. Peru's star Chef Mitsuharu Tsumura uses delicacy and refinement of different techniques and ingredients at MGM's restaurant. Aji, overlooking MGM Cotai's Spectacle, offers a variety in the menu that focuses on both Peru's and Japan's best ingredients, namely ceviche dishes. As a starter, the restaurant offers "Cebiche Conchas Negras," which features akagai clam, chullpi com, chalaca and black tiger milk served on a cold plate. One of the restaurant's highlights includes its "Octopus Anticucho," a

grilled octopus skewer served over causa potato and olive emulsion. According to the chef, the restaurant's delicacies reflect the fusion of culture that has made Peru a global food capital. "We have done many things. We have brought many signature dishes from Maido. At the same time we have created recipes and plates which are much more Peruvian," the chef explained during a media meet and greet. "Since we are in Asia, people know a lot about Japan but not about Peru. So building a cuisine with more Peruvian flavors is a way for people to understand Peru," Chef Tsumura added. Aji's "Short Rib 50 Hours" is one highlight,

featuring a 50-hour sous vide Kagoshima beef short rib, nitsuke sauce, creamy native potato with rice naan, egg yolk and a gel named Aji. "That is the name of our restaurant Aji - which means 'taste' in Japanese and chili pepper' in Peruvian. We blend our spice and spiciness with local ingredients," he added. According to the chef, a number of Peruvian dishes are also significantly influenced by Chinese flavors. "There are also Chinese flavors so I think it's a marriage between Peru, Japan and China," he said. Explaining the source of chili peppers, Chef Tsumura explained, "There is a story that the original point of entry of chili peppers to

Asia was in fact Macau - by the Portuguese." Meanwhile, the unique Tofu Cheesecake served with ice cream, sweet potato, bread-crumbs, apple with wakame, mango, burgundy grape tapioca and soymilk should not be missed. Chef Tsumura owns 'Maido' in Lima, a Nikkei concept that ranked 8th in the San Pellegrino World's 50 Best Restaurants 2017. The restaurant's dining room features organic shapes and textures, and the ceviche and sushi counter allows guests to be up close with chefs preparing seafood. Aji's pisco and sake bar also mixes some of the best Peruvian-inspired cocktails outside Lima. Prices range from MOP200 to MOP650.



Chef Mitsuharu Tsumura



Octopus Anticucho



Short Rib 50 hours



Tofu Cheesecake

WHAT'S ON



TODAY (JUL 20)
2018 ASIAN YOUTH FENCING COMPETITION

Around 900 fencers from all over Asia are bound for Macau to join the 2018 Asian Youth Fencing Competition, the first such regional event in the city. The two-day tournament brings together athletes as young as five and up to the age of 16. They hail from Singapore, the South Korea, Japan, the Philippines, Malaysia, mainland China, Hong Kong, Taiwan and Macau. The venue for the event is the Venetian Macao's Expo Hall B on Cotai.

TIME: 7am - 7pm
VENUE: Expo Hall B, Venetian Macao
ADMISSION: Free
ORGANIZER: Macau Fencing School and M&F Sport and Culture Development Co. Ltd
ENQUIRES: (853) 6289 8985
www.macaufencing.school.com



TOMORROW (JUL 21)
THE ULTIMATE KAREN MOK CHOW WORLD TOUR 2018-MACAO

Karen Mok has enjoyed a glittering career across Asia since releasing her first self-titled album in 1993. To celebrate the 25th anniversary of her debut, Karen will host over 50 concerts worldwide across 18 months as part of The Ultimate Karen Mok Show World Tour 2018. Karen is going to bring her concert to the Venetian Macao in July. Macau fans can expect to hear Karen's hit classic songs as well as tracks from her new album!

TIME: 8pm
VENUE: Venetian Macao - Cotai Arena
ADMISSION: MOP380, MOP680, MOP980, MOP1380
ORGANIZER: The Venetian Macao
ENQUIRES: (853) 2882 8818
www.macaoticket.com



SUNDAY (JUL 22)
THE WAY BACK HOME

The Way Back Home is a visually charming adventure without words staged through animated puppetry and music, exploring a child's boundless imagination. Based on an award-winning illustrated book by Oliver Jeffers, the play retells the story of a little boy who one day flies a single propeller plane so far high that he finds himself stranded on the moon. There, the boy soon meets a little Martian who is also stuck. Amidst plenty of physically funny situations, the two new friends are going to help each other finding a way to fix their crafts and return home safely.

TIME: 3pm, 5pm, 7:30pm (July 20)
11am, 3pm, 5pm (July 21-22)
VENUE: Macao Cultural Centre - Small Auditorium
ADMISSION: MOP180
ORGANIZER: Macao Cultural Centre
ENQUIRES: (853) 2870 0699
www.macaoticket.com



MONDAY (JUL 23)
PHOTO AND LITERATURE EXHIBITION ON LOTUS CULTURE

Most of the activities of the 18th Macao Lotus Flower Festival were held last month, but a Photo and Literature Exhibition on Lotus Culture remains open to the public throughout July. The annual Lotus Flower Festival celebrates this unique aquatic plant found throughout China, each year highlighting a particular lotus flower species. This year's choice was "Zi Chongyang", a medium- to small-size species with a bowl-shaped blossom comprised of petals in multiple layers.

TIME: 12pm - 8pm
UNTIL: July 31, 2018
VENUE: Activity Room, Garden of Flower City
ADMISSION: Free
ORGANIZER: Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau
ENQUIRES: (853) 2833 7676



TUESDAY (JUL 24)
OUTDOOR PERFORMANCES - INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DANCE FESTIVAL 2018

For one week, the city becomes a huge dance floor, with Macau welcoming the International Youth Dance Festival 2018. The theme behind this year's edition is the "Belt and Road" initiative and it brings together young lovers of dance aged between 15 and 29, from an aggregate of 17 countries and regions, as well as participants from 10 local teams. The Festival is held once every two years by the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau, with the first edition having been held in 1987. The highlight this year is a late-afternoon Parade on July 21st with a route that takes in the Ruins of St. Paul's and Senado Square.

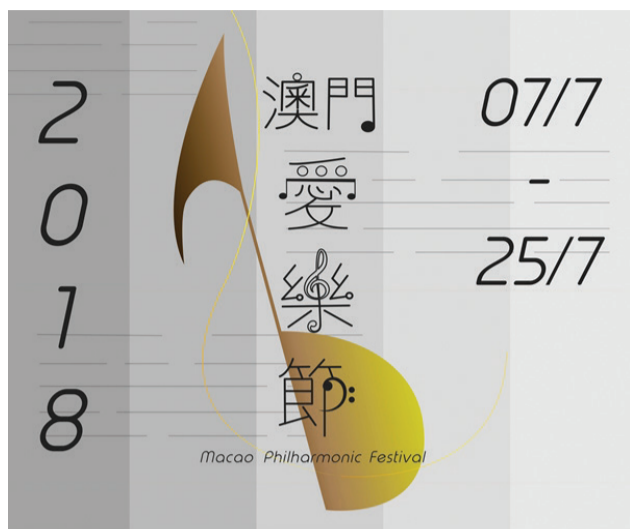
TIME: 8pm
VENUE: Anim Arte Nam Van
ADMISSION: Free
ORGANIZER: Education and Youth Affairs Bureau
ENQUIRES: (853) 2855 5533
www.dsej.gov.mo



FASHION REJUVENATION – EXHIBITION OF ECO-FRIENDLY AND FUNCTIONAL FASHION

This exhibition aims to promote the use of recycled fabric, giving garments a new lease of life. Eight local fashion designers were invited each to present for this showcase two sets of garments using eco-friendly and performance fabrics. The organizer says the final outcome "fully exemplifies Macau designers' diverse talent and boundless creativity".

TIME: 10am - 8pm (closed on Mondays, open on public holidays)
UNTIL: September 30, 2018
VENUE: Macau Fashion Gallery
ADMISSION: Free
ORGANIZER: Macao Fashion Gallery
ENQUIRES: (853) 2835 3341



24 Jul 20:00
澳門文化中心綜合劇院
Grand Auditorium, Macao Cultural Centre

室內音樂會
“管樂篇”
Wind Band Concert

演出 Performer
香港天水圍音樂人管樂團 x 香港木管樂團
珠海小區管樂團
澳門管樂團

WEDNESDAY (JUL 25)
STRINGS CONCERT- MACAO PHILHARMONIC FESTIVAL 2018

The Macao Philharmonic Festival is a two-day musical occasion organized to delight classical and jazz music fans. On the first day, the festival brings together classical music groups from Guangzhou, Zhuhai, Hong Kong and Macau on the stage of Dom Pedro V Theatre to perform most selected works by some of the world's most famous composers. On the following evening, two jazz ensembles from Hong Kong and Macau are set to perform some catchy, jazzy tunes.

TIME: 8pm
VENUE: Grand Auditorium, Macao Cultural Centre
ADMISSION: MOP 60
ORGANIZER: Macao Philharmonic Association
ENQUIRES: (853) 6353 9192
www.macaoticket.com



THURSDAY (JUL 26)
MACAO INTERNATIONAL WUSHU FESTIVAL 2018

Fans of martial arts should get a kick out of an event where wushu takes pride of place. The 7th Macau International Wushu Festival 2018 is a four-day event celebrating this traditional Chinese martial art. It features a wide range of competitions and demonstrations of traditional techniques, setting the stage for wushu masters from around the world to show off their skills. It is being held concurrently with the Macau International Martial Arts Competition.

DATE: July 24-27, 2018
VENUE: Macao Polytechnic Institute Multisport Pavilion
ADMISSION: Free
ORGANIZER: Macau Chinese National Traditional Sports Association
ENQUIRES: (853) 6358 1625
www.macao-wsj.com

Sands WEEKEND



LA PARISIENNE CABARET FRANÇAIS
Until 16 September
The Parisian Theatre, The Parisian Macao

La Parisienne Cabaret Français blends illusion, dance, acrobatics and comedy in true Parisian style to delight viewers of all ages. The show uses state of the art audio and visual technology to take viewers on an immersive tour of Paris via the Eiffel Tower, Arc De Triomphe and Notre Dame Cathedral before heading to Macao. An international cast of 38 death-defying stunt performers, illusionists, world champion skaters and dancers will take the audience on an amazing 65-minute journey.

Time: Weekday shows at 8pm, no shows on Monday
Saturday shows at 2pm & 8pm
Sunday shows at 5pm
Tickets: From MOP188, call reservations +853 2882 8818
cotaiticketing.com
Not suitable for children under 13.



SABATO EXTRAVAGANZA
Every Saturday
Portofino, The Venetian Macao

It's your weekend and you deserve to treat yourself and the whole family to a fun-filled SATURDAY. Join us at Portofino for an unforgettable BRUNCH extravaganza and indulge in amazing Italian and Mediterranean dishes with the best selection of fresh seafood, live cooking stations, and the famous Venetian entertainment.

Time: 11am - 1pm & 1:30pm - 3:30pm
Price: Adult MOP438* | Child MOP218*
MOP100 extra with free flow of wines and selected alcoholic beverages
Reservations: +853 8118 9950 or portofino.reservation@sands.com.mo
*Subject to 10% service charge.



A UNIQUE AUSTRALIAN WAGYU EXPERIENCE
Until 31 August
Copa Steakhouse - Level 3, Sands Macao

Experience the melt in your mouth texture and tenderness of Australian Wagyu beef at Copa Steakhouse's limited time summer menu. Featuring dishes such as seared M5 thick-cut Wagyu beef sirloin with French green beans, fava bean ragout and black truffle sauce as well fire-grilled Wagyu beef flat Iron steak.

Time: 5:30pm - 11pm daily
Reservations: +853 8983 8222



DISCOVER AQUA WORLD
Level 6, The Parisian Macao

Thrill-seekers will find the pool deck area exhilarating. Aqua World features three pool areas and hosts the Kids Slide, Jules Verne Airship and Marie Antoinette Tower. Hotel guests staying at The Parisian Macao from now until 19 December 2018 will enjoy Aqua World Buy 1 Get 1 Free offers!

Opening Hours: 10am-6pm
Price: MOP160 per person
Family package (Buy 3 get 1 free): MOP480 per day

澳門金沙度假區



RESORTS MACAO









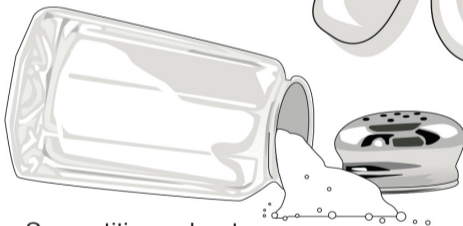
If a black cat walks toward you, it brings good fortune, but if it walks away, it takes good luck with it.



According to tradition, four-leaf clovers (or shamrocks) bring good luck to their finders, especially if found accidentally.



If the first butterfly you see in the year is white, you will have good luck all year.



Superstitions about salt date to ancient times, when salt was highly prized. One way to avoid the bad luck brought by spilling salt is to throw a pinch over your shoulder.

Garlic protects against evil spirits and vampires.



Carrying a rabbit's foot as a charm is supposed to bring good luck (although the rabbit was not so fortunate). In the Middle Ages, it was thought that a witch's familiar (spirit agent) could take the form of a rabbit or hare.

World of Wonder

EXPLORING THE REALMS OF HISTORY, SCIENCE, NATURE AND TECHNOLOGY

SUPERSTITIONS

By Laurie Triefeldt

Do you avoid walking under ladders, or knock on wood to ward off misfortune? You are not alone. Every culture around the world has its own superstitions. Most are irrational beliefs based on fear, folklore and ignorance.



If you drop a fork, a man will come to visit you. If you drop a spoon, a woman will visit.



To find a penny heads up brings good luck.

A cricket in the house brings good luck.

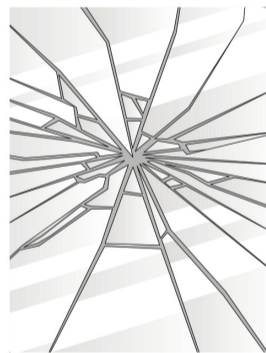


If you catch a falling leaf on the first day of autumn, you will not catch a cold all winter.

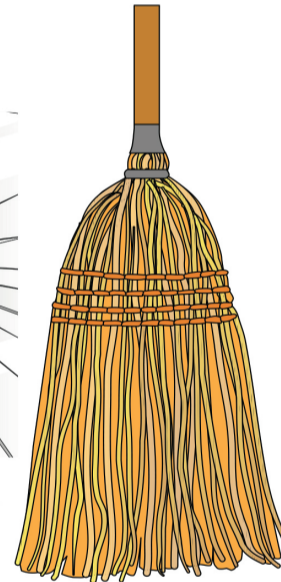


A horseshoe hung in the bedroom will keep nightmares away.

Horseshoes are considered very lucky. Many people hang them as protection to bring good fortune. Some say they should be hung with the ends pointing upward.



Break a mirror and seven years of bad luck will follow.



There are several superstitions about brooms: Never take your old broom with you when moving. Throw it out and buy a new one. If you sweep under someone's feet, they will never marry. Don't sweep dirt out the front door after sunset or bad luck will visit.

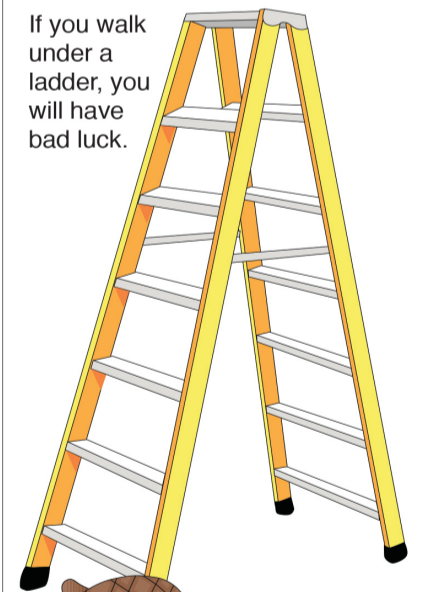


Step on a crack, break your mother's back. It is probably a good idea not to step on cracks anyway to help prevent tripping.

A bird in the house is an omen of death.

Robins have a reputation as weather predictors. If a robin sings while on top of a bush, the weather will be warm. If it sings from within the branches, rain is on the way.

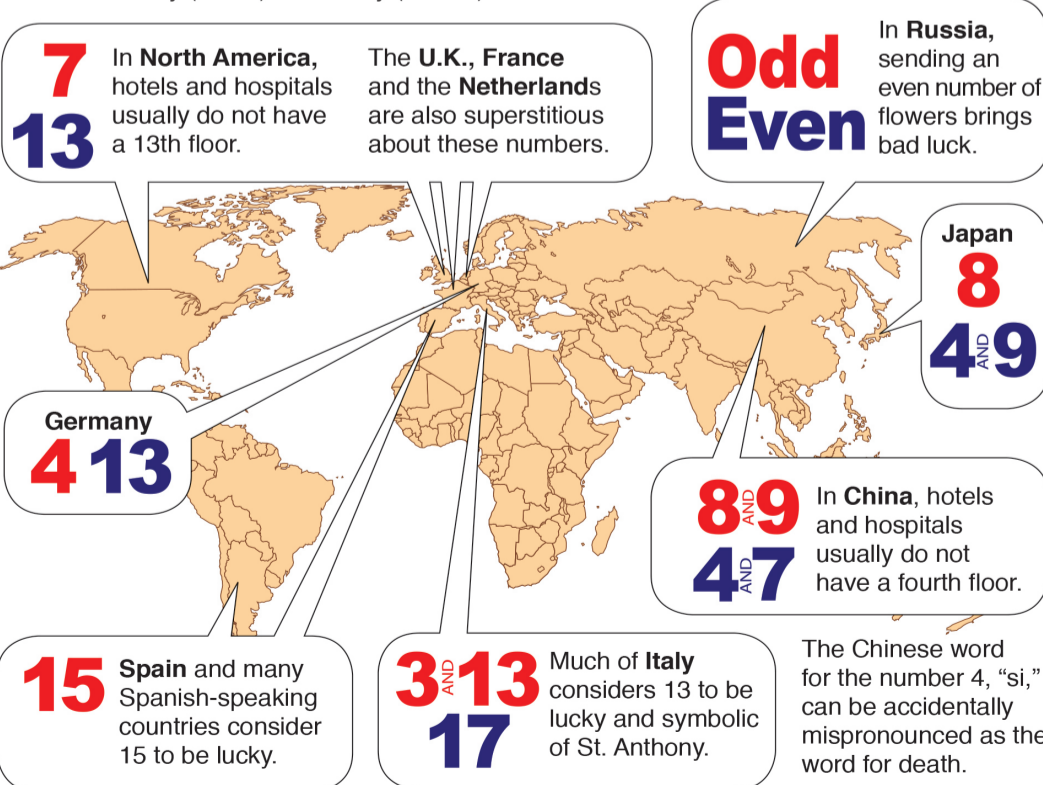
If you walk under a ladder, you will have bad luck.



An acorn at the window will keep out lightning.

Lucky and unlucky numbers around the world

Many cultures have superstitions about numbers. The map shows where some numbers are considered lucky (in red) or unlucky (in blue).



Unlucky dates

In many cultures, Friday the 13th is thought to be unlucky. Some believe this superstition began in France with the arrests of the Knights Templar on Oct. 13, 1307. The idea that March 15 is unlucky goes back to ancient Rome. It is the day when Julius Caesar was assassinated. The phrase "beware the Ides of March" is from a play by William Shakespeare.

SOURCES: World Book Encyclopedia, World Book Inc.; The Encyclopedia of Superstitions, MetroBooks; Dictionary of Superstitions, Cassell

At a bookstore near you: Two full-color World of Wonder compilations: "Plants & Animals" and "People & Places." For more information, please visit QuillDriverBooks.com.