

TRAVEL
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AP/SETH WENIG

An "Enigma" machine, destroyed by German troops in the field, is displayed at Spyscape in New York. Visitors to the new attraction in New York can learn about the elements of spying, its history and what kind of spy they could be.

Spyscape museum a history of espionage

DEEPTI HAJELA

NEW YORK — Hello, recruit. Your mission, should you choose to accept it: Learn about the elements of spying, its history, and find out what kind of spy you could be.

That's the order of the day at Spyscape, a new attraction that opened last month in Manhattan, where visitors can get a glimpse of spying's past and present, from the code-breaking machines of World War II to the most famous names in espionage and their deeds of derring-do or in some cases, dastardly deception.

Visitors can also take a series of tests that gauge everything from their powers of observation to their willingness to take risks, to see what spy role they'd be suited for. (Don't worry, there's no secret agency recruiting station at the exit.)

"People are going to come here and find out spies are actually like we are," said Shelby Prichard, chief of staff at Spyscape. "They're probably the closest thing you can get to superheroes in the real world but they're people. With training, with tools, definitely intelligence, but I think at the end of the day we'll all discover we each have our own kinds of spy skills and aptitudes."

The exhibition space is divided into different galleries. They focus on specific areas — encryption, deception, hacking, cyberwarfare, intelligence, surveillance and special ops.

In each of the galleries, visitors can see artifacts related to that area, like an actual Enigma machine used by the Germans to encrypt messages during World War II, or masks worn by members of the global hacking group Anonymous with some signed with the code name of the person who wore it.

In the surveillance section, part of the exhibition showcases how tools used by governments can also be used by other organizations, by incorporating material from The Associated Press' Pulitzer Prize-winning expose, *Seafood From Slaves*. The stories traced how fish caught by slave labor in Southeast Asia ended up on American plates.

The exhibits don't just focus on the past, either — there's a segment talking about messaging programs like WhatsApp, and how long messages on it will remain encrypted, as well as an area offering tips on how to limit your cyber exposure.

The interactive tests that visitors can take to build up their profiles are varied. In one section, they're asked to answer logic puzzles to rate their IQ, while in the deception section they're taught about different physical signs of lying and asked to determine whether someone being questioned is being truthful or not. In the surveillance section, they have a set amount of time to look at a range of screens and answer questions about what they're seeing.

The most physical interactive is the Special Ops area, where people take a run through a laser beam maze, trying to hit targets along the way.

Several years in the making, Spyscape's advisers and consultants included former spies and members of intelligence agencies, as well as hackers-turned-security consultants.

Spyscape is at 828 Eighth Ave., New York, N.Y., and general admission is \$39. For more information, visit spyscape.com.



ColorWorld/TNS/STEVE HAGGERTY

Papaya frings the beach with Tides Reach Resort's lodge and bungalow just beyond. The resort, located on Tavuni, Fiji, is one of many luxurious resorts, perfect for relaxing and exploring.

Fetching Fiji

Where paradise is more than sand and sea

ANNE Z. COOKE
TRAVEL NEWS SERVICE

TAUVENUI, Fiji — If Fiji was nothing more than sand and sea, palm fronds and flowers, it wouldn't matter which South Pacific beach resort you visited. Every vacation would be just another ho-hum adventure.

But after 15 years and as many visits to this 33-island nation, I've got a pretty good idea why each destination promises a unique experience. What's the secret? It's the Fijians themselves, proud to be Fijian and proud to show you their country.

Sau Bay Fiji Retreat, on Vanua Levu, the second largest island, was the first stop on my most recent trip to Fiji. Still jet-lagged, I was sitting on the deck of the lodge, gazing over the bay, when the bushes below me suddenly stirred and two hands and a pair of clippers appeared, followed by a head.

Then the head looked up, saw my feet and without missing a beat asked me what I thought of the umbrella-like trees towering over the lodge. This was my introduction to the owner, Nigel Benglas, a Scotsman by ancestry and a fifth-generation Fijian.

"These are rain trees," he said, affectionately patting a gnarled

trunk. "I took one look and I knew this was the place for me. You don't often see them so close to the shore — saltwater, you know — but they're thriving. And look at those tiny white flowers. These bushes are rare, but native." He paused, scanning the hillside. "This was bare when we bought it. Carol and I planted everything you see."

"How did you ever find this spot?" I asked. "Coming across the bay, you can't see it."

"That's easy," he said. "Fiji is home. I've been to most of these islands, dived every reef. Anything you want to know, people, politics, gardens, just ask. Do you drink wine? Maybe later."

I'd already met Carol, who emerged from her garden to show me Sau Bay's four ocean-view bures (BUREE-ays, i.e. cottages), each equipped with big beds, mosquito netting, private baths, coffee makers, a cookie jar and air conditioning.

Casual but courteous, the Douglases know how to make travelers feel at home. On most mornings Carol worked at her desk while Divemaster Nigel suited up to guide the resort's six other guests to Rainbow Reef and the Great



ColorWorld/TNS/STEVE HAGGERTY

When they arrive at the resort on Fiji's Tavuni Island, Tides Reach guests are greeted with Fiji's signature drink: fresh coconut water.

See *Fiji* on Page SE

Germany's Black Forest full of scenery, activities

In Germany's southwest corner, the Black Forest ("Schwarzwald") is a range of hills stretching east of the Rhine River. Ancient Romans found the thick forests here mysterious and sinister, so they called it "black." Today, Germans and tourists alike are attracted to this most romantic of German regions — famous for its mineral spas, clean air, hiking trails, cherry villages — and cuckoo clocks.

Some travelers, driven by "bucket lists," get sucked into the highly promoted, tourist-trap version of a place. Visiting here, they end up at Titisee, a meek mountain lake about the size of a parking lot. For a more enjoyable Black Forest experience, drive on back-country roads, spend a couple hours hiking with sights set on the euron-domed church of the most village, explore the small town of Wolfach, or wander the delightful bigger cities of Baden-Baden (to the north) or Freiburg (to the south).

Until the 19th century, the Black Forest was cut off from the German mainstream. The poor farmland drove medieval locals to become foresters, glassblowers

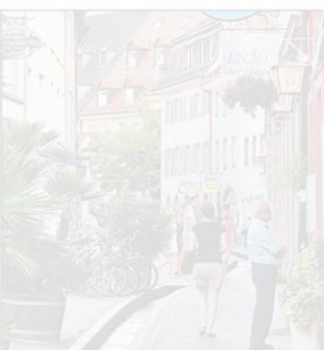
TRAVEL IN EUROPE

RICK STEVES

and clockmakers. Today, Germans come here to recuperate from their hectic workday lives, as well as from medical ailments — often with the consent of Germany's generous public health system.

Baden-Baden is the major spa town of the region, and the highlight of most visits here (a sober, 12-step ritual at the Friedrichbad, aka the Roman-Fritz Bath). This balneum pumped the rich and famous in its elegant surroundings when it opened in 1877. Today, this sunny world of marble, brass columns, tropical tiles, 180-ped deuce and graceful nudity welcomes gowly tourists and laid-back locals. For me, enjoying the baths

See *STEVES* on Page SE



RIA NEWS/EVERETT COLLECTION

Badled the "sunniest town in Germany." Freiburg is mostly traffic-free and home to 30,000 university students.

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Colin West/THIS IS STEVE HAGGERTY

There's inside-outside living at Sau Bay's beachside bungalows, with front porches, air conditioning, mini-bars and coffee makers. The resort on Vanua Levu, Fiji, makes travelers to this remote location feel at home.



Colin West/THIS IS STEVE HAGGERTY

Tavoro Waterfalls in Bouma National Heritage Park is one of Taveuni's top attractions. A \$15 entrance fee pays the adjacent village for upkeep and services.

Fiji

Continued from Page 4E

White Wall, 10 minutes away by dive boat.

That left precious private time to kayak across the bay, hike uphill and (with assistant manager Sarah as guide) visit nearby Kiova Island, the adopted home of Polynesian immigrants from Tuvalu; rising oceans are washing away their villages.

Four days later it was time to leave Sau Bay, this time to go to Tides Reach Resort, on Taveuni, Fiji's Garden Isle.

Expecting a clerk and a check-in desk, I was welcomed like royalty as the staff — 10 handsome Fijians — lined up with hearty "bulas" and firm handshakes. "You must be thirsty," said bartender William Colina, eyeing twinkling, big smile, handing me Fiji's traditional welcome drink, fresh coconut water topped with a flower.

Just 4 years old, Tides Reach is still growing, adding two bungalows and a dive shop later this year. The bungalows are sleek and simple, uncluttered white with minimalist furnishings and bold Asian and Fijian art. The main lodge, airy and spacious with two

open-air sides, looks out over a sandy beach and the bluest of blue water. "It's beautiful, isn't it?" said guest relations manager Paul Gombecik, motioning me to a plump white sofa. "Let's sit for a minute, then I'll show you around," he said, handing me a list of possible activities. "Some people don't want to do anything but relax," he added, nodding toward a guest on the beach, reading a book under an umbrella. "But you might want to see the waterfalls or the hiking trails, so we should pick a time you like."

With a free afternoon ahead, Gombecik suggested snorkeling around Honey-moon Island, at the end of the bay. Following sports guide Niu Lebitavatu into water as clear as glass, I had my first look at the coral damaged when Cyclone Winston roared over Fiji in February 2016.

Clumps of newly grown coral, yellow, beige and red, looked healthy. But you couldn't miss the piles of dead coral ripped out by wind and waves. "It was a Category 5 storm, the worst ever" Lebitavatu said. "The Pacific Ocean is warmer than it used to be."

On my last day at Tides Reach he invited me to his village, Vuvu. A dozen small houses built in a circle, on 800 grassy acres, it's fringed by vegetable gardens and a coconut palm grove. Fetching a solo (a wrap-around skirt) from the car, he handed it to me, blushing.

"Shorts are OK other places, but the chief is inviting us to his house to share a bowl of lava. It's traditional," he said. Prepared, I'd also brought lava for the chief, a gift bought an hour earlier at the corner market.

Back at Tides Reach, a farewell dinner waited — grilled lobster with roasted garden vegetables and a green salad — served by the chef who came to the table to wish me safe travels.

Yasawa Island Resort, in northwest Fiji, seemed a long way from Taveuni Island, in the east. But it was the last stop on my itinerary, and one of Fiji's top 10 luxury retreats. That made it worth the two short flights it took to get there.

And it was my second visit, so I knew what to expect: Total privacy among tall palms and landscaped gardens; luxurious thatched bungalows that feel Fijian but offer

the latest in luxury; miles of clean white sand, sloping gently out into deep water, with ocean views to the horizon. Less obvious but more important is that Yasawa Resort is, in its own way, both western resort and Fijian village. Blending two cultures, it enchants and enlightens travelers and reminds the staff — maids, waiters, guides, gardeners and handymen — that they aren't just employees, but hosts.

Why does this matter? Because Yasawa Island Resort, like most Fijian beach resorts, occupies leased land, owned and controlled by the local chief and the clan. A warm partnership and shared traditions benefit resort and village.

I did what I always do at Yasawa: I swam, organized a beach picnic on the coast, toured Bukama and visited the famous Blue Lagoon Caves, where you take a deep breath, swim under water, through a narrow channel

The Nitty Gritty

Sau Bay hosts small weddings, honeymoons, families and scuba divers. A la carte rates keep prices lower than its competitors. Cottages for two or more start at \$225 per night, add \$60 per day per person for meals; kids are welcome. Bottled drinks and guided outings cost extra. At saubay.com.

Tides Reach has been discovered by multi-family travelers. Villas for two start at \$875 per night; the deluxe villa (for four) is \$1,275. Prices available for the entire resort. Rates include airport transfers, all meals, child care, kayaks, paddle

boards, snorkel gear and on-site events. Guided tours and bottled drinks are extra. sidesasachresort.com.

Yasawa Island Resort's rates per night are all-inclusive, except for alcoholic beverages. Listed rates start at \$1,053 for two in a bungalow. Inrequent discounts list \$900. Included are kayaks, paddle boards, other sports gear, tennis courts, Wi-Fi in public areas, nonalcoholic beverages, and most guided outings: snorkeling, catamarans, sailing, half-day Blue Lagoon Caves, village tours and private beach picnics. yasawa.com.

(guided by a strong, kindly Fijian man) and pop up in a mysterious, sunlit pool. And each evening, as the sun set over the yardarm, I joined my fellow travelers

— kindred spirits all — at my favorite pool-side bar, toasting our adventure amid palm fronds and flowers, and rebasking another day in paradise.

Steves

Continued from Page 4E

here is one of Europe's most elegant experiences.

The town itself is chock-full of back-dweller treasures. Just recently, I discovered a delightful abbey that operates as a guesthouse, Lichtenhals Abbey, an active Cistercian convent founded in 1245, welcomes the public into its tranquil, gated world. It has survived nearly eight centuries of threats, including the suppression of monasteries in Napoleonic times and destruction during both world wars. Walking through its gate into a courtyard cradled by trees is so peaceful that you just know this place is blessed.

South of Baden-Baden is a forest section of forest chief's healing from a devastating hurricane. In 1999, Hurricane Lofthar tore through here, bringing down 20,000 acres of trees in just two hours. Germany decided to let nature heal itself and built a family-friendly, half-mile-long boardwalk (Lotharpfad) through a park, so people can connect with the slow-motion recovery spectacle and cheer nature on.

At the south end of the region, Freiburg serves as the capital of the Black Forest — a much younger and livelier alternative to more sedate Baden-Baden. While its old center was almost entirely rebuilt after a November 1944 bombing (and feels that way), Freiburg is a hive of small businesses and people living well. Its striking red-tiled stone cathedral and its fascinating Augustiner Museum (with fine art and medieval artifacts) are world-class, yet the town exudes an "I could live here" appeal. And with lush forested hills reaching above its venerable town gates, it's a lovely springboard for woody adventures.

And a journey through this local guide, we heard music in the distance and grabbed at the serenity as it fluttered by. Sure enough, the tunes led to authentic food, great prices, music and lots of people embracing life (as Europeans see so expert at doing). We stumbled upon the Feiringer microbrewery — a top local hangout in Freiburg. On warm summer evenings, their beer garden offers cool, leafy shade, quality beer, cheap



The bucolic landscape of Germany's Black Forest is punctuated by scenic towns and memorable hiking trails.

dishes of cold cuts and a bustling atmosphere. One of my latest discoveries is the quaint town of Wolfach, right between Baden-Baden and Freiburg. Nestled in the forest on the Kinzig River, the town is essentially one delightful main street lined with fountains, fine facades and inviting shops and cafes. At the south end of town, a museum in a castle explores the history of log rafting — crucial to this town's economy in centuries past. (A big part of the Black Forest industrial heritage was timber — assemble a huge raft, float it all the way to Amsterdam, sell the lumber, head home and do it again.)

And a journey through this region isn't complete without indulging in the local specialty — Black Forest cake (Schwarzwälder Kirschtorte) — mouthwatering layers of schmappe-soaked chocolate cake, cherries, chocolate mousse and whipped cream. The tasty charms of the Black Forest are best experienced by delving into the countryside in this land of cuckoo clocks and healthy hikes. You can enjoy picturesque driving tours, a hike between charming small towns and some fun museums and scenic nature spots. It's yet another blissful part of this iconic region, where nature is respected, and the heritage goes back centuries.

Photo: Steve Europe/CAMERON HEWITT

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New York Times Crossword Puzzle

Answers on the next page No. 0225

LETTER RECYCLING
By Will Neelger
Edited by Will Shortz

ACROSS

- 1 Small dish
- 5 Dine to ease the hunger
- 10 Threes together
- 15 Akropoli ruins
- 18 Not too
- 19 Foreigner
- 20 Not happy, in a bad mood
- 21 Eaten bread
- 22 Historical period, spelled using only the letters of 1-2 Down
- 24 Stage who once pulled his name with "P"
- 26 Word before also in 2
- 27 Unlikely to be talked out of
- 28 "Far from here"
- 29 Revolutionary who later spelled using only the letters of 1-2 Down
- 30 Walks with a "red" in "arm" option
- 31 Cold to go
- 32 Enter the first
- 34 Woman's name that sounds like its second and first letters, respectively
- 35 Fit
- 36 Stock item spelled using only the letters of 1-2 Down
- 38 Insect infest
- 40 Casual trip
- 41 Ancient theaters
- 42 Piece of Shakespeare
- 44 Food-making step
- 45 Be ascending
- 46 Garment that often plaid
- 48 Subject of 40
- 49 Chessman who
- 50 Gazer's "with an Arthurian resonance"
- 52 What's across again?
- 53 Many an office worker's problem
- 56 It's imagined
- 57 TV sitcom set in the 1950s
- 58 "What's Hot"
- 59 Dignitary
- 64 Oscar winner with five at Billboard box
- 66 Blueberry
- 67 What's across in 60
- 68 You can lead me without hitting me at all
- 70 Jemima's father
- 73 Comedian
- 75 Spanish "Lemon"
- 76 Mound
- 77 Forest pollution

DOWN

- 1 It's complex
- 2 Historical period
- 3 Devote a report
- 4 Timeline
- 5 Lustrous report
- 6 Wine glasses
- 7 Shakespeare's direction with "Shakespeare"
- 8 Word
- 9 Place in get prepared
- 10 Nudge one's letter with "the"
- 11 Circular ridge
- 12 Whole grain cereal brand
- 13 Revolutionary War hero
- 14 American rapper — Dad
- 15 Shady of blue
- 16 Armpit, medically
- 17 One's act up to part
- 18 Gazer's of Alfred the Great
- 19 Aish
- 20 Respond to a fall
- 21 Red, eg.
- 22 "Shady of blue" or "shiny"
- 23 Hypothetical
- 24 Stock item
- 25 Insect infest
- 26 "The Tempest"
- 27 Heavily impressive
- 28 Milder or sharper
- 29 "The"
- 30 Approve another source of
- 31 Seasonal in November months
- 32 Answer of 40
- 33 Son of 10
- 34 Part of a monochrome
- 35 Birthplace
- 36 "You and I have a deal!"
- 37 Singer in the "New York Classical"
- 38 Word in the study
- 39 Insect infest
- 40 Book
- 41 Book
- 42 Charles' (Shakespeare's) story
- 43 Newark
- 44 Was associated with
- 45 Kind of medicine
- 46 Book
- 47 "Shady of blue" or "shiny"
- 48 Number of "Monsters"
- 49 Pre
- 50 Bagel topping
- 51 Nifty attracts
- 52 Gazer's "with" or "with"
- 53 Datas
- 54 Nickname of "Duke" (Madonna's) M.I. "Zayn"
- 55 "Shady of blue" or "shiny"
- 56 Challenge (in a college annual student, maybe)
- 57 Musical instrument
- 58 — "Clash" (Chicago's) "Clash of the Titans"
- 59 Actor
- 60 Book
- 61 "The"
- 62 Answer of 40
- 63 "Shady of blue" or "shiny"
- 64 "The"
- 65 Answer of 40
- 66 "Shady of blue" or "shiny"
- 67 "The"
- 68 "The"
- 69 Answer of 40
- 70 "The"
- 71 "The"
- 72 "The"
- 73 "The"
- 74 "The"
- 75 "The"
- 76 "The"
- 77 "The"

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