Currents

Travel provider arranges a dietary itinerary for you

Travelers with dietary restrictions will welcome a service that arranges meals to accommodate food allergies or vegetarian, vegan, kosher, or gluten-free diets. Sign up for a trip with Classic Journeys, a Californiabased company that offers cultural walking adventures, family trips, and culinary tours worldwide, and fill out a food-related questionnaire. The company's Guest Services team then contacts local guides at your destination who get in touch with each restaurant on your itinerary. They give chefs advance notice of your arrival date and needs, so you don't have to worry about finding suitable food throughout the trip. 800-200-3887, www . classic journeys. com

Zip over Alaska wilderness

See Alaska's wilderness from a zip line starting May 6. The fourhour Mammoth Waterfalls and Ultra Zip-line Adventure, run by Alaska Excursions, includes a 30-minute narrated drive from Skagway's cruise ship dock to the town of Dyea. After a safety briefing and orientation, you can soar among the treetops on 11 zip lines that are up to 750 feet long, and also traverse four sky bridges that overlook waterfalls and the forest floor, about 30 feet below. Riders must weigh between 65 and 265 pounds. Rates: \$159 adults, \$139 children up to age 12. 907-983-4444, www. alaskaexcursions.com



SCOTT SCHAFFRICK

Rub elbows at the TD Bank Philadelphia International Cycling Championship.

Ride, dine with pro cyclists

Cycling fans can meet professional riders from around the world and pedal the course of the largest single-day professional bike race in North America. The TD Bank Philadelphia International Cycling Championship takes place June 5, when 400 pros from more than 20 countries compete on a historic 156mile route through the city. A special Weekend at the Race package for fans includes a bike tour to Valley Forge with a picnic lunch, a "ride and dine" with several of the event's top racers, a chance to meet team directors and mechanics, and VIP access to hospitality tents along the course on race day. The June 3-5 package, offered by Exceptional Cycling Tours, runs \$799 per person, based on double occupancy. 610-574-3534, www.procycling tour.com.

KARI BODNARCHUK

Destinations

FOOI

It's spring, so get cooking!

JUNE 10-12

VANCOUVER, British Columbia

EAT! Vancouver Food + Cooking Festival: This celebration of all things edible really does offer something for every taste. Devotees of the local food movement can learn about backyard gardening and sample cheeses from the Dairy Farmers of Canada. The more restless can head to the International Culinary Stage for tips on dining and travel around the globe. Festival highlights include cooking demonstrations by celebrity chefs and the Bite of Vancouver Restaurant Pavilion, where local chefs offer bite-size morsels from their menus. Even pets are not forgotten: Representatives with free samples for Fluffy and Fido will be on hand to discuss dog and cat nutrition. Vancouver Convention Centre-West, 1055 Canada Place, adults \$16, seniors \$14, children ages 7-14 \$7, tasting tickets 50 cents-\$2.50. www.eat-vancouver

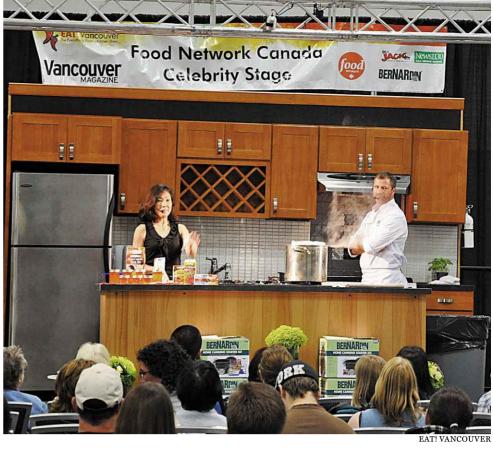
JUNE 2-5

LEBANON, Ore.

Lebanon Strawberry Festival: Of all the strawberry festivals around the country, only one lays claim to the "World's Largest Shortcake." This one began in 1909 to celebrate the rich crop in the central stretch of the state's Willamette Valley. Organizers hit on the brilliant idea of the big shortcake in 1931 and have prevailed against other communities seeking to strip them of their self-proclaimed title. Assembled on a three-tiered trailer and then covered in clear plastic, the mammoth shortcake is a highlight of the Grand Parade through downtown. At the festival grounds, more than 15,000 people enjoy a slice – topped with strawberries and whipped cream. Cheadle Lake Regional Park (Santiam Highway/Weirich Drive) and other locations, parking fee \$5. www.lebanonstrawberryfes tival.info



Gettysburg Festival: Here's your chance to dine like a head of state. The signature culinary event at this All-American extravaganza of arts and culture is a four-course White House dinner prepared by Walter Scheib, executive chef during both the Clinton and George W. Bush administrations. For more down-to-earth fun, festival goers can eat barbecue and sample local craft beers while listening to R&B, swing, blues, and Motown, or tap their feet to zydeco music during a Cajun Creole cookout. A farm-style Sunday



Celebrity chef demos are star attractions at EAT! Vancouver, in British Columbia.

Supper features a quilt display and bluegrass music. Various locations, Culinary Arts Events \$25-\$125. 717-334-0853, www.gettys burgfestival.org

JUNE 23-25 WICHITA, Kan.

National Festival of Breads: Kansas grows nearly 20 percent of our country's wheat, so it's only fitting that the so-called "Breadbasket of the World" also hosts what sponsors call "America's only amateur bread baking contest." It's too late to enter your prize recipe this year, but you can attend the baking demonstrations on the final day and watch the eight contestants prepare their loaves and rolls. The contest takes place every other year, so start now to perfect your techniques and hone your recipes for ethnic or whole-grain bread, rolls, or time-saving and easy bread. Wichita Airport Hilton, 2098 Airport Road, free admission for public on June 25. www . national festival of breads. com

PLAN AHEAD

JULY 9-10 BUFFALO

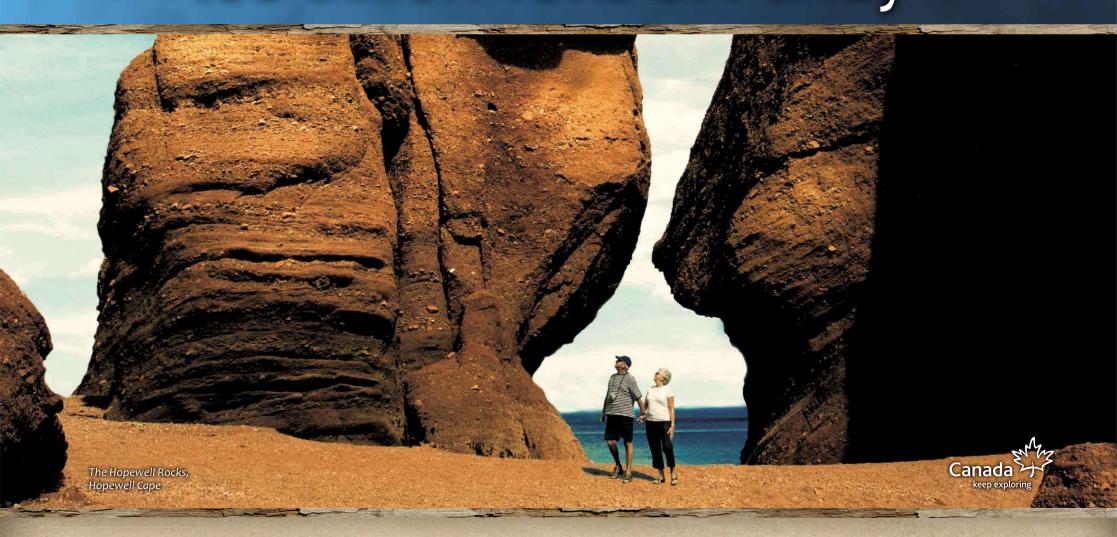
Taste of Buffalo: More than 450,000 people eat to their hearts' content at this self-proclaimed "largest two-day food festival in the United States." The 50 restaurants that set up booths downtown each prepare three or four dishes and showcase their originality with offerings such as BBQ meatloaf sliders, Italian style burritos, tempura fried green beans, strawberry kabobs, and peanut butter pie. Live entertainment, cooking demonstrations, and tours of the city's Art Deco City Hall round out the activities. Delaware Avenue and Niagara Square, free admission, food \$1-\$4. www.tasteofbuffalo.com

PATRICIA HARRIS AND DAVID LYON

Events are sometimes canceled, rescheduled, or sold out; check online. Patricia Harris and David Lyon can be reached at www.hungry travelers.com.







If you're searching for new and interesting experiences, take a turn off the beaten path.

Start with the Bay of Fundy as your phenomenal backdrop. You'll quickly discover why it's one of only two North American finalists in the New7Wonders of Nature, in good company with the Grand Canyon. Walk on the ocean floor where four-story tides have carved intriguing 350

Explore the Fundy Isles where Franklin D. Roosevelt spent his summers and James Audubon charted some of his rarest bird sightings. A destination for 11 cruise companies, and less than a 6 hour drive from Boston, this natural wonder is a quick hop up the coast.

Intriguing, inviting, it's a place where you can immerse yourself. Fact is, New Brunswick is full of unexpected finds.



million year old rock formations.

Delve into more activities, events and local recommendations. **facebook.com**/ TourismNewBrunswick

TourismNewBrunswick.ca/WelcomeToAtlanticCanada

