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WORLD'S BEST  
CRUISES

# TRAVELER

## EPIC JOURNEYS

19 TRIPS TO  
**Change  
Your Life**

**Get Going Now!**

**CRUISE ARCTIC NORWAY**

**HIKE IN PATAGONIA**

**DISCOVER BRITTANY**

**EXPLORE MACHU PICCHU**



# WORTH EVERY STEP

15 EPIC ADVENTURES ON FOOT

By Maryellen Kennedy Duckett



Perched on an Andean mountaintop, Machu Picchu served as a royal retreat for the Incas.



**W**hen asked why he wanted to climb Mount Everest, English mountaineer George Mallory famously replied, "Because it's there." For those of us who need a little more motivation, we've chosen 15 celebrated places—including Machu Picchu, Pisa, and Provence—worth the trek or climb. Whether you're a Sunday stroller or a Sherpa, you'll find an adventure to match your stamina. The ultimate reward waiting at the end? An inspiring perspective on the world.



Inclined to climb Pisa's leaning tower? Prebook online, or prepare to line up.

## ANCIENT TRACKS

Discover past glory as you follow age-old footsteps.

### PERU

#### Machu Picchu

● Get a reverse angle on Machu Picchu from the 8,920-foot summit of Huayna Picchu, the looming peak in all those memorable images of the Inca site. Only 200 hikers a day are permitted to make the two-hour round-trip trek. Go slow while descending the notoriously steep "stairs of death" near the top.

### JORDAN

#### Petra

● Sculpted from sogging sandstone cliff walls, more than two millennia ago, the ancient Nabataean city is one of the world's most famous archaeological sites. Hike about 800 steps up to Petra's massive monastery for top-of-the-rock vistas of the Wadi Arabah desert.

### INDONESIA

#### Borobudur

● On the island of Java, Mahayana Buddhist pilgrims climb the 95-foot-high, multitiered structure (the single largest Buddhist temple on Earth) as a symbolic journey to enlightenment. Apex views of surrounding volcanoes are breathtaking, but the nearly 3,000 bas-reliefs deserve a closer look.

### GREECE

#### Acropolis

● Crowned by the fifth-century B.C. Parthenon, Athens's hilltop citadel is the most complete ancient Greek monumental complex still in existence. Walking up takes 15 to 20 minutes. For a less steep climb, enter on the southeast side near the Acropolis Metro stop.

### CHINA

#### Great Wall

● Built over a period of 2,000 years, the mother of all border walls (made up of multiple segments) is a tangible link to imperial China. Walk in the footsteps of emperors, and see well-preserved Ming dynasty-era watchtowers on the six-mile Jishanling section, 2.5 hours northeast of Beijing. Start at Zhuanducou Pass for hikes that can last 1.5 to three hours.

## STEP-O-METER

- An epic journey
- A formidable feat
- A scenic stroll