

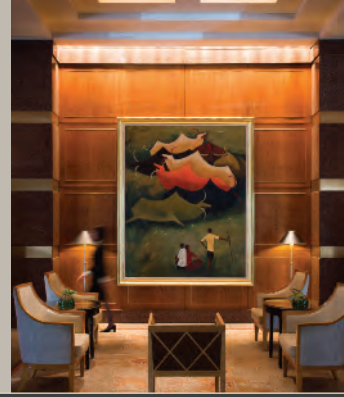
SPRING 2019

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In 2018 the hotel underwent a full refurbishment, featuring the use of natural materials in the rooms and suites. The window coverings are made of a natural jute fiber. To transition seamlessly from work to relaxation, all rooms feature moveable tables and day beds. Each room comes with a 55 inch HDTV mounted on a special crushed eggshell design wall. Guests can choose from the extensive Conrad Pillow menu. A motion

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 >





The spacious marble bathroom includes a double vanity sink, large bathtub and separate shower stall with rain shower.

The Conrad Spa offers a sanctuary of relaxation with a range of indulgent massages and body treatments.



◀ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

sensor to activate electricity has been added as an environmentally friendly feature, and guests only need to press a button or tug the drapes to trigger them to close automatically. All guest rooms include double vanity sinks in the large marble bathrooms with separate bathtub and shower.

Guests staying in Executive rooms have unprecedented access to two different lounges. The Executive Lounge on Level 31 has a residential ambience, accompanied by sweeping views. The Lounge by the Pool is perfect for families, offering a casual setting in a bright and relaxing environment.

To help guests discover the rich tap-  
 istry that is Singapore, specially curated

itineraries for excursions are available covering food, shopping, art and design, culture, family activities, and adventure.

Three outstanding options for dining await guests. The 24 hours Oscar's offers an array of sumptuous local and international creations. The Golden Peony, helmed by celebrity chef Ku Keung, is one of the most sought out restaurants in town for those seeking to sample classic Cantonese dishes. The Lobby Lounge is an intimate place to have a cocktail while listening to live music.

The new spa comprises a total of four treatment rooms including a couple's treatment room, and access to the 24 hour fitness center is complimentary for guests.

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Dear Corniche Family... that's YOU!

Welcome to the Spring Edition of our *Corniche Club Magazine!* And thanks to Mark Miller for putting together this excellent collection of articles and travel industry updates.

This is the 32nd year of **Corniche Group, Inc.** and our **Corniche Travel Management Company** AND of the **Corniche Club!**

We brought back the hard copy by popular demand from our loyal clientele and suppliers! Our digital version is also available. If you are not receiving it, just let us know. Email Mark@Corniche.com or call us at 310-854-6000 and we will be sure to add you to our email distribution list. Likewise, in the reverse! If you would like a hard copy via snail mail, you've got it. And we are happy to add your friends and neighbors as well.

This edition brings you highlights from our three divisions: **Travel, Entertainment and Africa!** We have some Travel Tips as well, important for all of you regardless if you are on the road for business or pleasure. Hopefully you are doing BOTH through us! There is no trip too small or conference too large, no destination too far or too near! We are here for you with our expert, dedicated travel managers and our most valued industry partners including hotels, car companies, tours, destinations, airlines, charters, etc.... All on board with us to give you the best experience possible anywhere in the world, 24/7.

You all know that my great love is Africa. **Karin Jones** gives you insight here on her recent trip to the outer limits of **Tanzania** — literally away from the madding crowds! I had a fabulous trip with great friends last summer to Southern Africa for five weeks, culminating with Karin and I meeting up and going on to fully experience Namibia — a first for us both! A truly extraordinary adventure for those of you ready to go beyond the Bush into another time capsule and another dimension altogether. While in **Botswana**, however, my friends and I stayed at the luxurious **Duba Plains**, part of the amazing **Joubert's Great Plains Conservation** group. They are responsible for the restoration of the beloved Rhino population to this incredible area. You will read here about the frightening movement by some in this precious country to re-start hunting and culling of elephant. **Corniche** and **Anastasia's Africa** join **Dereck** and **Beverly Joubert** 100% in their campaign to quell this insanity immediately. **NO HUNTING or CULLING ELEPHANTS in BOTSWANA.** The facts are clear. Read them here.

Of course, I can never say enough about Africa. Please, if you haven't given yourself this gift of nature yet, let us show you the way. You've heard it a million times, but it IS the TRIP OF A LIFETIME.

And what's Travel without **Entertainment?** *Peas in a*

## CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

BY **Anastasia Mann**



*pod* and we are proud to present the best of both to you here. See Mark's article on the latest achievements of our marquis artist, **Louie Cruz Beltran**, as well as our beloved **Betty Bryant's** new CD's success!

We are also proud to feature some more of our other worldly favorite places here as well. The sanctuary of the stunning **Conrad in Singapore!** **NOBU** has gone from the name of that amazing restaurant you can't get in, to a full luxury brand of unique hotels! See what **Oceania Cruises** are offering as well as our friends at **Intercontinental Hotels** throughout the world. What's up in **Santa Barbara?** One of Courtney's "getaways" no doubt! **Hotel Californian:** Intrigued? And take a look at exotic **Pimalai Resort and Spa in Thailand** — a nice add on to that trip to Singapore! And the eclectic **House of Kooser Collection** has grown to include some of our favorite Boutique Hotels in the world including our own **Sunset Marquis**, here at our home in the heart of **West Hollywood.** And speaking of **WeHo**, always a blessing to be celebrating 32 years on the Sunset Strip with our partners at **Visit West Hollywood!**

And a couple of shout outs! First and foremost, to **Andrew Benton**, retiring President of our beloved client of 25 years, **Pepperdine University!** Thank you Andy, for your incredible leadership and the inspiration you have provided not only to the thousands of students who have been under your watchful guidance, but also to all of us who have been privileged to know you and work with you and be your friends over these 19 years with more to come. And next to **Musso & Frank, Hollywood's** classic, venerable restaurant (and my personal "local" since I was five years old) on their 100th ANNIVERSARY! Martinis for everyone!

So, Cheers everyone! Let's hit the road and enjoy life. It's the best one we have!

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# ELEPHANT CULLING FACTS AND FALLACIES

BY **Dereck Joubert**

*Botswana is considering lifting a 4-year hunting ban and culling a large number of elephants. A recent poll by Human Society International reports that 78% of respondents oppose the culling or hunting of elephants. Here are the facts.*

**FALLACY:** Elephants have increased since hunting was banned in Botswana four years ago. **FACT:** This is both irrelevant and not known with certainty. If hunting had continued at pre-ban rates, and no elephants died naturally, that would have generated a 0.02% increase in the population. Wildlife surveys indicate the elephant population has actually declined over this period.

**FALLACY:** Elephants have extended be-

yond their historic range since the ban. **FACT:** Elephants once roamed (historically) all over Botswana and across the continent.

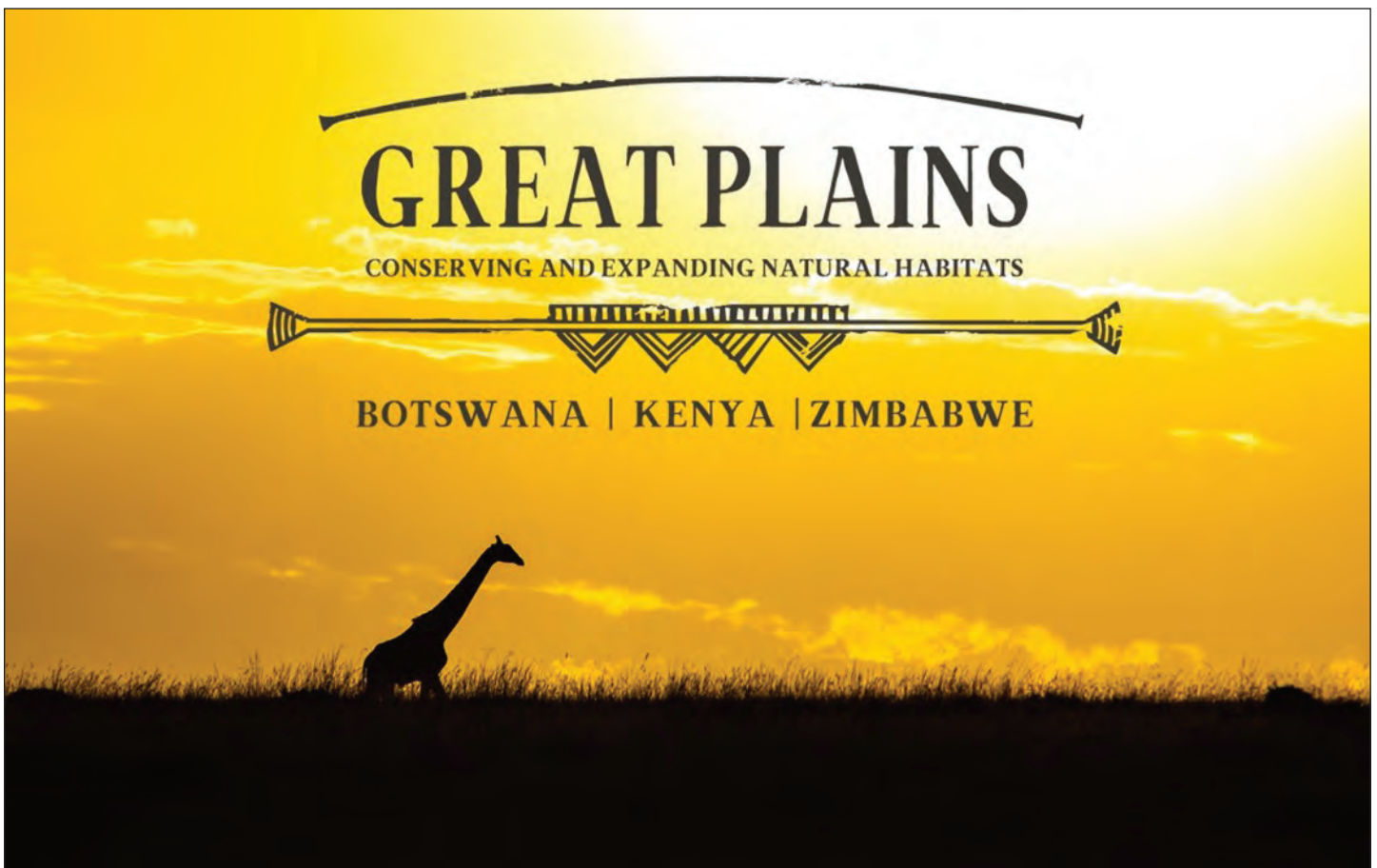
**FALLACY:** There has been an increase in people being killed by elephants since the hunting ban. **FACT:** While any human life lost is a tragedy, there were as many deaths pre-ban and in fact there is a greater likelihood of conflict with a wounded, frightened animal.

**FALLACY:** Communities in Botswana

have lost revenues since the hunting ban was put in place. **FACT:** Communities are on average up by 50% in terms of both revenues and employment according to a Botswana Tourism Organization report. If trophy hunting returns and elephant culling begins, it will damage Botswana's image as a leader in wildlife conservation. I encourage people who want to travel to know the facts, and make choices based on their values. ▲



TO REGISTER YOUR OPPOSITION TO ELEPHANT TROPHY HUNTING USE THE CONTACT FORM AT [WWW.BOTSWANATOURISM.CO.BW](http://WWW.BOTSWANATOURISM.CO.BW)





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## UPDATES FROM THE BUSH

BY **Karin Jones**  
MANAGING DIRECTOR,  
ANASTASIA'S AFRICA



*Anastasia's Africa*

# Tanzania: Beyond the Great Migration

**O**n my trip a few weeks ago (late January/early February) to Tanzania's Serengeti National Park, I went to the wrong part of the Serengeti. Or so one would think.

However, within minutes of landing at the Kogatende airstrip, what we saw

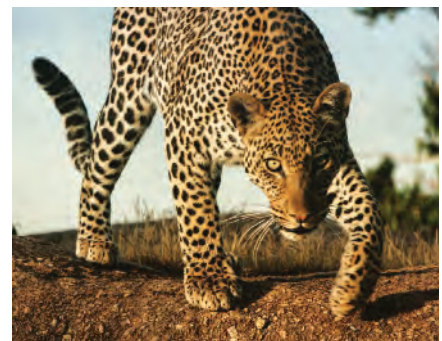
before us was nothing short of holy... prides of lion at every turn, a rhino and her calf, a leopard in the rocks and another in a tree, multitudes of Thompson's gazelle and Topi, with herds of elephants all around. We saw multiple tiny klipspringer antelope pairs on rocks, hundreds of grunting hippos in the Mara River, a serval cat stalking at dusk, hyenas, cheetah brothers hunting and a male

ostrich with his harem strutting across the beautiful green landscape. And this was all just on the first two days.

After continuing by road to the Eastern Central Serengeti, to an area that has recently opened up after being closed for 20 years to allow the cheetah population to replenish itself, what followed was 4 more days of incredibly prolific sightings in what



*Predators don't migrate.  
One can only be engrossed by  
watching thousands of gnus  
(wildebeest) for so long.*



is now regarded as big-cat country, amid grassy plains with wildflowers and butterflies. Did I mention we saw 2 different sightings of lions mating? We also saw a cheetah with its fresh kill, zebras by the hundreds, a giraffe and her brand-new baby, plus a pride of 15 female lions and their young, grooming each other with their tongues and rubbing their heads in greeting — with 60 paws

intertwined so closely one could hardly tell where one lion body ended.

It was here that I had a realization which came to me after 32 years in the African safari biz — being away from the migration herds also has its benefits. Perhaps being down in the Southern Serengeti in February among the hundreds of tourists, with the ground trembling beneath your

feet, the air filled with grunts and clouds of dust as thousands of wildebeest move en masse was something to be experienced for just a few days before escaping to the relative emptiness of the Northern or Eastern Central Serengeti in February. There were literally no other vehicles around us for days in either of these two areas!

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On our second day a couple flew up to the north, having just been down south among the hordes and herds. While they enjoyed seeing the wildebeest calving, they were absolutely riveted by the peace, quiet and amazing game viewing we were all experiencing up north, with no other tourists to be found.

Our guide talked about how much more he enjoyed being in the northern Serengeti (where we were) in February,

compared to the high season up there from July-October, when his clients simply wanted to sit by the river for hours, alongside other vehicles waiting for a wildebeest crossing. It was enlightening!

Sure, watching the wildebeest plunging into the Mara River before snaking up the other side as crocodiles are snapping at them can be as exhilarating as it gets on safari. There's the sheer volume of wildebeest and zebra dotted as far as the eye can see across the plains. The vulnerable young calves graze beside their mothers and the hungry

predators watch every move.

But remember, predators don't migrate. And one can only be engrossed by watching thousands of gnus (wildebeest) for so long....

So, the take-away... while we'll still send you to join your compadres in the midst of the thundering migration for a few days, we also recommend you spend an equal amount of time or more away from the masses, where there is resident game all year long, and you will be able to have your own private slice of Africa to yourself. ▲

## QUICK FACTS

### MIGRATION

When it comes to Africa's great wildebeest migration there is a lot to know, and there is more to it than river crossings across the Mara River as they try to make their way across the river in search of new grazing grass.

### WHEN AND WHERE TO GO

Many people ask us when the migration is, or where the migration is? And to this we explain that it is a cycle. Throughout each year, some 2.5 million wildebeest, zebra and various species of antelope follow the rains in a clockwise direction. They move between the sprawling plains of Tanzania's Serengeti National Park and the grasslands of Kenya's Masai Mara National Reserve, plotting a course determined by the amount of fresh grass available.

The Serengeti offers spectacular game viewing year-round. What matters here is that you head to the right part of the park for the time of year and that you

avoid the main tourist traps. If the wildebeest migration is a major objective, then there isn't really a "best" time to visit. River crossings happen between July and October on either the Grumeti or the Mara River, and the calving, one of the most spectacular times to visit, happens in February. Game action remains excellent through the unfashionable months of March, April and May when the wildebeest start moving off the plains during the rut. Low visitor numbers make this a great time to visit. If you're traveling between December and May it's worth combining the Southern Plains with other areas as we did, especially if you're interested in walking, night driving and more of a wilderness experience.

### ACCOMODATION

For those interested in following the migration as it moves, there are luxury mobile tented camps which are re-located every few months. There are also permanent camps in different locations. There is nothing like spend-

ing a night under canvas, with the lullaby of lions roaring to put you to sleep as you are tucked in your warm bed and the safety of your tent. Meals are sometimes communal affairs, resplendent with wine and hearty fare. The elegance of the meal and your tent interior are usually reflected by the standard of camp and price point level. We'll help you match the right level to your safari investment and sensibilities.

### MAKE THE MOST OF IT

Ready to go? We don't blame you. Tanzania is magical, vast, and the Serengeti is just one of the many beautiful locations to explore there. We typically combine it with Tarangire with its red earth and giant Baobab trees, the Ngorongoro Crater, as well as time in Kenya, if time and budget allow. You can also head to western Tanzania with its vast untouched parks or go chimp trekking in the footsteps of Jane Goodall! We'll work with you to design a trip of a lifetime!





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# NOBU LUXURY

Named one of luxury's 25 most innovative brands by *Robb Report*, Nobu Hospitality is ranked among an elite selection of global luxury hospitality brands. The natural growth of the Nobu luxury brand built on service, image and hospitality, offers the complete spectrum of hotel and restaurant management for unique projects around the world.

### MIAMI BEACH

The Miami Beach property delivers the unique chemistry and perfect balance of luxury, fun, craft and theater. The setting merges Miami modern architecture with an intuitive interpretation of Chef Nobu's signature style. David Rockwell drew upon Japanese architecture and the hotel's oceanfront location to evoke a contemporary Japanese beach house.

### LOSCABOS

The first property in Mexico, the beachfront Nobu Hotel Los Cabos features 200 guest

rooms that seamlessly blend contemporary Japanese minimalism with locally-sourced natural, Mexican materials and finishes. Drawing design inspiration from the sophisticated palette that alludes to the Japanese aesthetic of the Nobu brand, as well as the unique elements of Cabo San Lucas, Nobu Hotel Los Cabos is the perfect fusion of architectural elegance and laidback luxury.

### CHICAGO

Offering 115 stylishly appointed guest rooms and suites, Nobu Hotel Chicago is centrally located in Chicago's West Loop on the corner of West Randolph and North Peoria, one of Chicago's fastest growing neighborhoods and home to the famed "Restaurant Row." Nobu Hotel Chicago is brought to life in a theatrical way through the architecture of the building, which playfully blends elements of old world Japanese art and new world utilitarian, with a sense of accessible sophistication. ▲



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# COURTNEY'S TIPS: WEEKEND GETAWAYS

*Getting a chance to travel and unwind doesn't always mean taking an opulent two-week vacation in a distant, exotic destination. A brief two or three day trip is easy on your schedule, wallet, and a little bit of effort can transform a couple of days off into a truly tranquil yet magical adventure! To make the most out of your brief time away from your usual everyday routine, consider planning your trip ahead of time with these ideas in mind.*



## STAY CLOSE

Never travel less than an hour and a half but no more than three hours to your destination. There is a middle ground where you'll feel like you're actually "away" on your get-away but traveling to your destination won't take up a significant amount of your limited time.

Take advantage of the smaller, quaint towns outside your city or nearby wine country. Napa, California isn't the only prestigious area for making and tasting fine wine. There are plenty of smaller towns that have thriving small, privately owned vineyards.

## GET PREPARED

Before you go be sure to curate your perfect travel playlist on Spotify. Nothing can excite people for a journey more than spectacular background music! Search and add your fa-

vorite songs to this special playlist for the drive and you'll all be twice as excited when you finally arrive at your destination.

## AMENITIES ARE KEY

Utilize the spa services at the hotel where you're staying. This is where to really splurge and just get that hot stone or Swedish massage you typically never get. If you utilize the spa services towards the beginning of the trip, you'll feel more relaxed throughout the entire weekend.

## ASK A LOCAL

There's no better opinion of the local dining scene than a local! Concierge services provide in depth knowledge about the restaurants in the area. Some hotels even have a Twitter account set up for their concierge

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BY **Courtney Swan**

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services. You can tweet or direct message them any time of day for assistance even including restaurant recommendations.

## TRY SOMETHING NEW

It's such a magical feeling when you're coming back from any vacation reflecting on your new, unique memories and experiences. Take advantage of the hotel's daily yoga classes, an afternoon bicycle ride or try horseback riding at a nearby ranch.

## STAY FLEXIBLE

It is worth taking the time to do a couple of fun activities but find balance and don't overwhelm yourself with a to-do list. The point of a weekend get-away is to relax, take a break from the normal routine and feel recharged. Does your room have a fireplace or a soaking tub? Maybe cozy up with a good book in the evening or splurge a little and order a movie! Outdoor fire pits are also a great on-site amenity for families.

## ENJOY

Of course, you'll want to take photos but especially since you're working with just two or three short days let your focus be on engaging with the people you're with and what you're doing to enjoy your trip to its highest capacity. And to really enjoy your get-away its valuable to note that many Resorts & Spas run mid-week promotions which are great deals if your schedule allows that flexibility! ▲



# Creating Great Memories with Corniche Entertainment



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Corniche Entertainment client and Los Angeles treasure Betty Bryant has one 2019's top nationally charting albums with Project 88. Louie Cruz Beltran and some new friends enjoy each other's company after Louie's fun, entertaining and informative solo percussion presentation "Rhythm & Roots" in the Mark Taper Auditorium at the Grand Central Library, downtown Los Angeles.

**C**orniche Entertainment had another memorable year, once again booking and promoting over 60 quality music events in Southern California and beyond. A few highlights include Marquee Artist Louie Cruz Beltran headlining the annual ProTravel International holiday party at the landmark Beverly Hills Hotel, and entertaining guests at the Noche de Noir gala fundraiser for the prestigious Los Angeles Theatre Center. Once again Louie had them dancing in the streets at the 24th Street Theatre's huge Dia de Los Muertos street party in Downtown Los Angeles, and Louie made his debut appearance at the historic Wilshire Ebell Theatre. In ad-

dition to his busy corporate, private party, nightclub, and community events schedule, Louie performed 25 of his "Rhythm & Roots" solo percussion presentations in various branches of the Los Angeles County Library system. Louie feels passionately about the power of arts education. "Rhythm & Roots" demonstrates specific rhythms, where and how they originated in Africa, and how they made their way through Europe and Latin America and into today's musical styles. It is a fun, interactive and informative experience adaptable to all age groups, and delivers a strong "stay in school" message of

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## NEW TRAVEL RULE



### BEPREPARED

Starting on January 1, 2021, all U.S. citizens who want to travel to the 26 members of Europe's Schengen Zone will need to register with the European Travel Information and Authorization System (ETIAS) or risk being turned away at the border.

### SCHENGENZONE

You'll need to register starting in 2021 to enter Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland.

The micro-states of San Marino, Vatican City, and Monaco will also require the registering.

While Romania, Bulgaria, Croatia, and Cyprus aren't currently Schengen countries, they are in the process of joining and will be subject to the same requirements once they do.

### APPLICATION PROCESS

According to a fact sheet the European Commission released in July 2018, "An ETIAS travel authorization does not reintroduce visa-like obligations. There is no need to go to a consulate to make an application, no biometric data is collected and significantly less information is gathered than during a visa application procedure."

Through the online system on **etiasvisa.com**, you should be able to book last minute trips to Europe. To apply, you'll need a valid passport, an email address, and a debit or credit card to pay the nonrefundable application fee of 7 Euros. There are no other fees associated with the program.

After you fill out your application online with the personal information on your passport and answer a series of security and health-related questions, it should be approved and sent to your email address within a few hours after it is

checked across security databases like Interpol and Europol.

While children under the age of 18 will be required to have an ETIAS, they will not be charged the application fee.

### ETIAS TERMS

After you apply for the first time, your ETIAS will be valid for three years—or until your passport expires, whichever comes first.

Because the ETIAS is valid for short-term stays of up to 90 days for both leisure and business travelers, you'll be able to re-enter Europe multiple times within that three-year period without renewing it, as long as your stay doesn't exceed 90 days within a 180-day period.

Those who want to study or work in Europe will need to apply for a proper visa.

This new program isn't limited to U.S. citizens. In fact, there are 60 countries whose citizens will be required to have an ETIAS when visiting countries in the Schengen Zone.

◀ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

empowerment through the arts. Corniche Entertainment is very proud of Louie's commitment to this important cause. He also speaks at school assemblies, and is available for corporate motivational team building events. Louie was honored to be the featured guest in a live studio broadcast on National Latino Public Radio's Radio Bilingue with the distinguished host Maria Elaña, discussing Latino culture, his music, and his work in arts education.

At the time of this publication, our beloved Betty Bryant is enjoying the success of one of the top charting albums in jazz. Her wonderful CD "Project 88" has spent five weeks on the JazzWeek National charts in the top 30, which is an amazing accomplishment, charting with the likes of Wynton Marsalis and Jazz at Lincoln Center, and Grammy winning vocalist Cecile McLorin Salvant. Betty is right where she belongs. We are proud to handle her live bookings and send our love and congratulations to Betty and her producer Robert Kyle. Well done, Cool Miss B!

We are in our eleventh year of curating the popular Music on the Main series at beautiful Descanso Gardens in La Canada, opening the series on June 6th with Louie Cruz Beltran, and are looking forward to presenting two more shows for the prestigious LA Made series at the Mark Taper Auditorium at the Grand Central Library in Downtown Los Angeles. Prominent LA based pianist and composer Josh Nelson performs his multi media original work, "The Sky Remains," which brings Los Angeles history into focus, and Ronobir Lahiri presents an energizing show of live sitar and tabla music played over the lush, rhythmic background of his original compositions.

Whether it is a restaurant or hotel launch, private party, corporate, or community arts event, Corniche Entertainment is here to provide the perfect music for the occasion. ▲

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

For details on Corniche Entertainment's upcoming schedule of events, and to be added to our email list for live shows, email [mark@corniche.com](mailto:mark@corniche.com) or call 310.854.6000





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

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