



Condé Nast Traveller

SEPTEMBER 2021 \$4.99

Ibiza

Sicily

Croatia

Greece

South Africa

France

Thailand

Somerset

Denmark

*hot
summer
have*



TRENDWATCH

INTREPID DIRECTIONS IN WORLDWIDE CULTURE

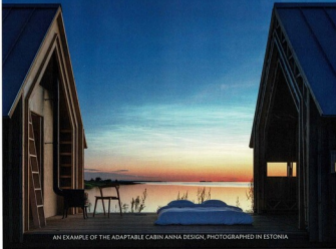
CLOSE ENCOUNTERS

THE EUROPEAN SAFARI IS COMING OF AGE WITH IMMERSIVE NATURAL EXPERIENCES

Spurred on by a surge of enthusiasm for adventures nearer home and the revival of European megafauna through rewilding projects, partnerships between conservationists and green-minded hosts are shooting up like mushrooms.

Travel company Wild Frontiers, usually focused on Pakistan, is striding into Poland and Slovakia's towering Tatra Mountains with bear-spotting tips while Much Better Adventures is setting up moose- and wolf-tracking expeditions in Sweden's pristine boreal forest. But for a good indicator of where we'll head for our next outdoor fix, non-profit Rewilding

Europe points the way, and currently all eyes are on Portugal. The group is coordinating the regeneration of a 120,000-hectare corridor in the Cifa Valley to safeguard bee-eaters and Egyptian vultures, just some of the species reliant on the area's receding river gorges and oak woods. Local ventures are also seeding experiences across the region that will connect the Malcata mountains and the Douro Valley. Another crucial country is Italy, where the restoration of the Venetian lagoon and its salt marshes is being championed by Jane da Mosto, co-founder of We Are Here Venice, while earlier this year the Conservation Collective launched a foundation to turbo-charge efforts throughout Italy's Renaissance heartland; among the Tuscan estates involved is Terre di Sacca, a handful of villas and a glamping site on reclaimed land. And the Netherlands is often overlooked as a wilderness destination: in the Dutch Maashorst nature reserve, guests can view bison and Camargue ponies from a sunken bathtub at the new larchwood Cabin Anna, a nifty piece of architecture that can slide in half to create a viewing platform in the middle. But if you think nature might need a break from this discovery boom, the six-part TV series *Europe's New Wild*, out now, is bringing the story straight to our screens. HOLLY TUPPEN



AN EXAMPLE OF THE ADAPTABLE CABIN ANNA DESIGN, PHOTOGRAPHED IN ESTONIA