200 and Counting

The GT team marks another milestone issue with reflections on travel. p. 38



BIRTHDAY TOAST: Kimberly Krol enjoying an after-dinner sour cherry liqueur PHOTO: © KIMBERI Y KROL

ON THE MOVE

WOW — 200 ISSUES! I joined the FX Express Publications, Inc., team in October 2006, a recent college graduate (Go Syracuse!) and eager to learn all I could about the industry. I've been part of this company for a large majority of those 200 issues. The experiences I've had since exceeded even my wildest expectations. From unbelievable trips to colleagues I genuinely consider close friends to moments of sheer hilarity, it's been quite the amazing ride.

You can join us for a look back on page 38. To commemorate the milestone, we've compiled a list of 200 things you might want to know about the Global Traveler team. We've got recommendations, tips, tricks and funny memories to share. And there are stories from those of us who've been here for quite some time and those newer to the team. It's a quirky and fun trip down memory lane.

One of the categories is 20 Underrated Cities You Need to Visit Now, and I recom-

mended Lviv, Ukraine. My picture this month comes from my trip to the city, where I celebrated my birthday and enjoyed an after-dinner sour cherry liqueur from the city center's Drunk Cherry. Add both Lviv and the libation to your bucket list.

Where else does this issue take us? We're in Munich; Jeddah; Washington, D.C.; at Croagh Patrick in Ireland; Guangzhou; Greenland; Fiji; Raleigh, N.C.; and Beirut. Also available this month is our Leisure Lifestyle Edition, announcing the winners of our sixth-annual Leisure Lifestyle Awards. The special issue also features in-depth articles on leisure travel trends including family-friendly resorts, food tours, vacation deficit disorder, how to travel like a celebrity, historical tourism and the best U.S. markets in which to buy

Next month our Wellness Issue launches with a look at some of the healthiest spots on the planet. Let's keep moving, both at home and on the road!

KIMBERLY KROL, EDITOR IN CHIEF

CONNECT WITH GT

▼ Follow GT on Twitter @GTmag

Become a fan at facebook.com/globaltravelermagazine



EDITORIAL

Editor in Chief KIMBERLY KROL kim.krol@globaltravelerusa.com

Vice President/Digital Director KATIE SKRZEK katie.skrzek@globaltravelerusa.com

Senior Editor JANICE HECHT jan.hecht@globaltravelerusa.com

Associate Editor/Copy Editor PATRICIA VANIKIOTIS patty.vanikiotis@globaltravelerusa.com

Associate Editor ANGELIQUE PLATAS angelique.platas@globaltravelerusa.com

Assistant Editor ALLIE MENZIONE allie.menzione@globaltravelerusa.com

Digital Content Producer DEBRA BOKUR debra.bokur@globaltravelerusa.com

News Editor ALLIE MOORE allie.moore@globaltravelerusa.com

Editor at Large HOLLY RIDDLE holly.riddle@globaltravelerusa.com

Art Director TRACEY CULLEN tracey.cullen@globaltravelerusa.com

Staff Photographer CHRISTOPHER P. OTTAUNICK christopher@globaltravelerusa.com

Special Events Video Editor VANCE PICCIN

COLUMNISTS

KRISTY ALPERT MARGARET BACKENHEIMER J.D. BROWN MARK CHESNUT EUNICE FRIED MARY B. GALLAGHER JACK GUY

For complete bios,

visit globaltravelerusacon

REGINA BARABAN RON BERNTHAL ELLEN CLARK IACK GUY SHARON KING HOGE KARIN LEPERI GREG MCCLUNEY RICHARD NEWTON KATHERINE RODEGHIER

Admission is free to the North Carolina Museum of Art, North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences, North Carolina Museu of History and the City of Raleigh Museum. Read nore about Raleigh on

CIRCULATION

ALLIE MOORE

Specialists JOHN WROBLEWSKI, LOUIE ATSAVES Managers JAYHAWK EVANS, MARK P. FORD, TERESA JACKSON, ANTHONY "SCRAPS" DIMERA Circulation Director MICHELE SHANNON Circulation Manager ANNA PUDZIANOWSKI Research Consultant SHARON STERNE

ADVISORY BOARD

Chairman MICHAEL DONAHUE, COO MICHAEL KIELY, President CARLOS CAPPLICCIO, Executive Vice President GARY OSWALD, Deputy Vice President Aviation EDWARD JEFFERSON, Deputy Vice President Accommodations STEPHEN DOHERTY, Deputy Director Destinations WAYNE TALLMAN, Vice President Special Events/Photography CHRISTOPHER OTTAUNICK, Secretary MARK LANE, Research Director FRANK LOVERME, Treasurer KEVIN RYAN, Director of Technology BOB HANCOCK, Director of Digital Advancement JARED TORGAN

GENERAL COUNSEL

THOMAS F. GOLDMAN

CONTACT US

GENERAL INQUIRIES/ISSUE REQUESTS/REPRINTS tel 267 364 5811 SUBSCRIPTIONS tel 818 286 3134 | gbtcs@magserv.com
PUBLIC RELATIONS Kimberly Krol tel 267 364 5811 ext 202 | kim.krol@globaltravelerusa.com
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR letters@globaltravelerusa.com

Global Traveler is published monthly by FXExpress Publications, Inc., 310 Floral Vale Blvd. Yardley, PA 19067. The U.S. subscription rate is \$42 for one year, \$79.95 for two years,

POSTMASTER: Please send changes of address to Global Traveler, 310 Floral Vale Blvd.,





Southern Hospitality

Raleigh boasts a business-friendly environment and culinary treasures. BY RON BERNTHAL

AROUND TOWN: (Left to right) AC Hotel Raleigh North Hills restaurant, The Kitchen; Vidrio restaurant; and North Carolina Museum of Natural Science

PHOTOS: © AC HOTEL, © LM RESTAURANTS INV, © VISITRALEIGH EARLIER THIS YEAR, WHEN Amazon announced the top 20 finalists of 238 U.S. candidate cities hoping to host the company's second North American headquarters, Raleigh made the final group. About the same time, Apple announced plans to build another U.S. corporate campus, with Raleigh among several cities under consideration.

North Carolina Commerce Secretary Tony Copeland said the area is a "natural fit" for both projects. He pointed to the presence of other tech leaders such as IBM, Cisco, Red Hat and SAS Institute as proof the region is business-friendly and could support such large operations.

North Carolina's hospitable, laid-back capital city quietly emerged as one of the country's most dynamic business cities. "Last year *Forbes* named the Raleigh metro region as the nation's No. 2 Best Place for Business and Careers in 2017," said Michael Haley, executive director, Wake County Economic Development, which oversees business development in Raleigh and surrounding areas

Known as the City of Oaks, Raleigh's tree-lined streets and friendly Southern ambience belie its economic diversity, with major employers like WakeMed Health & Hospitals and Duke Energy joining the tech leaders. BB&T Insurance Services, Carquest, First

Citizens Bank and Golden Corral also maintain headquarters here.

The city and its suburban communities are fast-growing leaders in information technology, life sciences, clean tech and advanced manufacturing. In 2017 the city saw major corporate expansions at Credit Suisse, INC Research, Citrix and MetLife and the arrival of innovative tech companies such as Trilliant Networks, which moved its global headquarters from Silicon Valley to the Raleigh suburb of Cary. Infosys, a huge multinational from India, will open its North Carolina Technology and Innovation Hub in Raleigh's Brier Creek this year.

The city is perhaps best known as one of the three anchors of Research Triangle Park, the largest and most prominent research park in the country. Located between Raleigh, Durham and Chapel Hill, RTP covers 7,000 acres, houses more than 200 companies and employs more than 50,000 workers.

In addition, Raleigh offers a high quality of life with more than 160 miles of greenways, numerous museums, a brand-new bike share program and 85 music venues — not to mention on-going mixed-use projects creating lovely live-work environments near the center, especially in the revitalized Warehouse District. The Dillon, scheduled for completion this year, is a \$150 million, 227,000-square-foot mixed-use project. Its 18-story office tower boasts 40,000 square feet of street-level retail and restaurant space, and two six-story apartment buildings include a parking deck. The landmark project makes up an entire 2.5-acre city block across from the new Union Station, and the office tower occupies the site of the 1912 Dillon Supply Co. warehouse, incorporating one of its old brick walls into the building.

The \$90 million Union Station, a steel and glass multimodal



rail terminal, will open soon, with long-distance Amtrak and regional train service beginning later this year. Replacing a 1950s-era Amtrak terminal, its 43,000 square feet include office, retail and restaurant space.

Southern Living called Raleigh a "culinary mecca," and its reputation as a foodie city grows each year. When noted local caterer and chef Coleen Speaks opened Hummingbird (it's small, like the bird) in late 2017, with its sea-green tile walls, yellow bar stools, white marble-top bar, New Orleans-style cocktail bar and café atmosphere, it capped a year of excellent restaurant debuts in the city. Hummingbird serves lots of cinnamon-sugared ricotta fritters, seafood po' boys and tasty hot and cold small plates. Serving three meals daily, it is part of Lynwood Brewing Concern's trendy but unpretentious dining, retail, gallery and unique business complex located within a former mid-century A&P grocery distribution center and warehouse near Downtown Raleigh.

The Downtown Raleigh Alliance reported city food and beverage sales hit \$223 million in 2017, beating the 2016 record by \$21 million. Other 2017 dining debuts include Vidrio, offering the flavors and soul of a Mediterranean kitchen with a menu infused with imported specialties and local ingredients; and Brewery Bhavana, a family-owned brewery, taproom, dim sum restaurant, library and flower shop all in one, making *Bon Appétit's* list of The Hot 10 Best New Restaurants in America.

The Morgan Street Food Hall and Market, Down-

town Raleigh's first food hall, opened this spring in the Warehouse District, a 22,000-square-foot space offering 60-plus culinary shops with chef-driven specialty foods. Vendors range from fully outfitted kitchens providing cooked-to-order meals and snacks to specialized shops selling food and related items. Indoor/outdoor spaces host curated art, music and large-scale special and culinary-themed events.

Hotel growth in Raleigh and Wake County surged in recent years, with new properties and major renovations a boom for leisure and business travelers. The 379-room Raleigh Marriott Crabtree Valley, the second-largest full-service hotel in the city, completed a \$37 million renovation and expansion covering all guestrooms, meeting and dining spaces. The 400-room Raleigh Marriott City Center, across the street from the Raleigh Convention Center, is the city's largest property. Two eclectic hotels opened last year just 10 minutes from the downtown: the 135-room AC Hotel by Marriott North Hills and The StateView, a 156-room Marriott Autograph Collection property on the campus of North Carolina State University.

Raleigh-Durham International Airport offers 400 daily flights to more than 50 non-stop destinations, including four international airports: Toronto Pearson, Cancún International, London Heathrow and Paris Charles de Gaulle. Terminal 2 received a design award from the American Institute of Architects and serves more than 11 million passengers a year.

Half of the bicycles in Raleigh's new 30-station, Raleigh's new 300-bike share program 300-bike share program include small electric motors.

SCENIC DRIVES

Using highways and local roads. head 48 miles (55 minutes) south to rural North Carolina and visit the Bentonville Battlefield, the site in March 1865 of the last full-scale action of the Civil War in which the Confederate Army mounted a tactical offensive, the largest battle ever fought in North Carolina. The Harper House still stands on the grounds; downstairs rooms replicate a functioning Civil War field hospital, while the upstairs features period furnishings. Nearby Four Oaks, founded in 1885, retains a relaxed atmosphere. Friendly merchants and a historic downtown make this town of 1,800 residents a nice place for tasty eastern North Carolina-style barbecue. Afterward, follow the Blue Gray Scenic Byway, Gen. Sherman's path as he marched from Bentonville to Goldsboro after the battle. Begin the winding byway at I-95; Exit 90 on US 701 South; turn left on Devils Racetrack Road.

The Uwharrie National Forest is a federally designated national forest located 88 miles (1.5 hours) west of Raleigh. The 50,645-acre forest derives its name from the ancient mountains atop which most of the forest sits. The Yadkin River marks the region's western border, the Great Pee Dee River the northern boundary. Scenic Route 24/27 bisects the forest, going through the tiny town of Troy with its beautiful six-mile hiking trail and historic Main Street marketplace.