

# Seaside culinary classes to an easy-to-use thermometer

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## HERE

### OCEAN STATE SEASIDE WINE AND CULINARY CLASSES

Learn about wines from around the world during a Vine to Wine weekend series at the Ocean House, a Relais & Châteaux property that sits on a bluff overlooking the ocean in Watch Hill, a village of Westerly, R.I. The 136-year-old property hosts a new Old World vs. New World Cabernet Sauvignon class, Jan. 17-18 and an Australian Wines class Feb. 21-22. Each event includes a Friday night reception and a Saturday class with wine tasting and cheese selections for \$40. The hotel's "food forager" leads free culinary classes each week through the winter with sessions on New England cheeses and homemade mustards, for instance. Rooms start at \$295, double occupancy. 888-552-2588, <http://www.oceanhouseri.com>



## CHILL OUT ON A WINTER BATTERY WHARF TERRACE

Cozy up to a hot chocolate, gourmet s'mores, or a warming cocktail like the rum cobbler on the newly opened outdoor terrace at Boston's Fairmont Battery Wharf. The Winter Terrace has couches and Adirondack chairs, lap blankets, heat lamps, and tasty treats that are cooked over an open flame in the fire pits. Enjoy s'mores with marshmallows, graham crackers, and your choice of chocolate, peanut butter cups, or sliced banana. Or try the Gruyere fondue, which comes with a platter of air-dried salumi, cherry peppers, and crusty ciabatta bread. Stop by the terrace from 5-10:30 p.m. daily; reservations required. 617-994-9000, [www.fairmont.com/batterywharf-boston](http://www.fairmont.com/batterywharf-boston)

## THERE

### SWISS MUSEUM CELEBRATES OLYMPIC SPIRIT

The Olympic Museum in Lausanne, Switzerland, recently reopened after two years of renovations that nearly doubled the exhibition space. Located in the Ouchy district overlooking Lake Geneva, the museum has more than 300 screens and 1,000 objects that tell the stories of Olympic champions and the history of the Olympic Games. A new temporary exhibition, "The Russian Avant-Garde and Sport," explores sports in the Soviet Union in the 1920s and 1930s; it runs through May 11. Adults \$20, ages 6-16 \$11, under 6 free; \$5.60 for temporary exhibits. 011-41-21-621-65-11, [www.olympic.org/museum](http://www.olympic.org/museum)

## HIKE THROUGH CATALONIA

Walk through a park with extinct volcanoes and through medieval towns with some of the world's top cuisine on a new self-guided walking and hiking tour through the historic Catalonia region of northeastern Spain. The seven-night tour, offered by On Foot Holidays, takes hikers through the volcanic zone of La Garrotxa Natural Park, along the precipitous cliffs of the Cabrerres, and on paths with views of the Pyrenees. Stay in towns such as Besalu (pictured below), Olot, and Girona, home to one of the world's top-ranked restaurants, El Cellar de Can Roca. Rates start at \$1,316, including seven bed-and-break-fasts, five dinners and picnics, and luggage transfers between hotels. Level: medium to hard with 4½ to 6 hours of walking and hiking per day. 011-44-1722-322-652, [www.onfootholidays.co.uk](http://www.onfootholidays.co.uk)

## APP HELPS YOU LOCATE HOTELS

Download RoadNinja to your smartphone or tablet and you can find out hotel prices and book a room. The app lists hotels based on location, organizing them according to the proximity of each road exit, and rates, with the least expensive rooms displayed first. Select a hotel from the list and then view the Hotels.com Guest Review rating, find out the available room types and prices, and see photos, a list of amenities, and directions. Click Book Now and you'll be redirected to the Hotels.com mobile website. RoadNinja works on both Apple and Android. 225-237-0039, [www.roadninja.com](http://www.roadninja.com)

## **EVERYWHERE**

### HIGH-QUALITY HEADPHONES

Phiaton's Chord MS 530 Bluetooth noise-canceling headphones fit comfortably even after hours of use, and provide superior sound in flight, blocking engine noise for easy listening but letting you tune into onboard announcements. The over-the-ear headphones connect quickly, offer intuitive controls, and have a backup cord in case you want to connect to a non-Bluetooth device, such as in-flight entertainment. Battery life covers you for at least three or four movies with noise-canceling on, with power to spare (the manufacturer claims up to 30 hours of talk or listening time). The dual microphone lets you make and receive calls. \$299 on Amazon.com. 866-313-3203, [www.phiaton.com](http://www.phiaton.com)

## TRAVEL-FRIENDLY THERMOMETER

Taking a person's temperature while on the go can be tricky, especially with fussy, squirmy, or sleeping subjects. Watertown-based Exergen has released the Smart Glow TemporalScanner, an infrared thermometer that lets you take a temperature by gently sweeping it across a person's forehead, capturing heat emitted by the temporal artery. It's quiet, easy to use, and noninvasive. The thermometer has an easy-to-read backlit display, remembers the last eight temperature readings, and is available at retailers such as Walmart, Target, Rite Aid, and Toys 'R' Us. \$49.99. 800-422-3006, [www.exergen.com](http://www.exergen.com)