The Art of the Veer
TRAVEL SPIN-OFFS THAT TAKE YOU TO UNEXPECTED PLACES
The real story is 121 miles from Los Angeles at Joshua Tree National Park.
THE ART OF THE VEER

THE EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME MAY BE RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER—BUT BEYOND THE WELL-TRAVELED PATH. SO DON'T FEAR DETOURS, DELIGHT IN THEM. HERE ARE 28 SPOTS WORTH GOING THE DISTANCE FOR.

BY KATHRYN O'SHEA-EVANS
hips did it first. To “veer” meant to slacken the lines and go where the wind took you. In our case, it means that after enjoying your business trip or resort vacation or family visit, you take a different tack; you go the long way.

Consider the veer dessert after the main course. Drive the back roads and blue highways to discover the hidden stop-ins and weekend hideaways to succeed your planned business or pleasure.

We’ve picked out more than two dozen spots to get you started (we even calculated their distances from the nearest major city). But a great veer requires a certain trust in serendipity. So make your bucket lists and itineraries, but leave time to poke around and chat up the locals. And when you stumble upon something wonderful, congratulate yourself. You haven’t Googled or guidebooked your way to it; you simply slackened the lines and veered.

—Jay Heinrichs

KICK BACK LIKE BOND, JAMES BOND

In 1952, Ian Fleming rolled up in his Jamaican villa and wrote Casino Royale—the first of 14 James Bond books—he would pen from what’s now GoldenEye Hotel & Resort ($320 per night). Ask for the 007 bedroom; Fleming’s writing desk still sits there. Just in case you’re inspired to pen the next Great Spy Novel instead of basking at the beach.

76 MILES OFF OF DALLAS INGLE

Take a Wild

At the conservation Fossil Rim Wildlife (fossilrim.org), you’re fairest captain. A 91-mil skirts open animal ho home to everything ostriches to aoudads, lea whole new meaning words “wildlife cro
Eat Incredible Oysters

Start 89 miles N of Seattle in Bellingham, WA:

Here you can catch the ferry to the third largest Lummi Island, where the seven-room Willow Inn (willow- inn.com; from $285) has earned plinko-image status among foodies since chef Blaine Wetzel, an alumnus of the two-Michelin-starred Noma in Copenhagen, Denmark, took over in 2010. Wetzel describes his menu as a "story about the land" and often serves seafood dishes, including a bed of chilled pebbles and sauce. In the morning, make your way to the tiny coastal town of Bow, where you can enjoy a dish of your own of Washington State's famous Kusamori oysters at Taylor Shellfish Farms (taylorshellfish.com), family owned since 1896. Bring wine and crusty French bread; claim a -side picnic table, and call it cocktail hour. For dinner, hit the nearby Oyster Bar (oysterybar.com), where Samish Bay oysters are baked with a side of bacon, chives, and sherry. Or, pick your favorites on a half shell, including mild Royal Miyagi from Southern Puget Sound and cucumber-fresh Fanny Bay oysters from Vancouver Island.

Take a Wild Ride

At the conservationist-run Fossil Rim Wildlife Center (fossilrim.org), you're the safari captain. A 91-mile road skirts open animal habitats home to everything from ostriches to aoudads, lending a whole new meaning to the words "wildlife crossing."