

FOOD & DRINKS TRAVEL FEATURES (High-quality feature packages with top-class photography)

Countries covered: **AUSTRALIA, BARBADOS, BELGIUM, CANADA, CARIBBEAN, CUBA, DENMARK, ENGLAND, EUROPE, FIJI, FRANCE, GREECE, INDIA, IRELAND, ITALY, JAMAICA, MARTINIQUE, MOROCCO, NORTHERN IRELAND, NETHERLANDS, PORTUGAL, SCOTLAND, SPAIN, SRI LANKA, SWEDEN, THAILAND, USA, VARIOUS**

For more information contact: andy_jmarshall@yahoo.co.uk

AUSTRALIA

"Coffee Capital's Top Ten – Melbourne Cafés" (1000 & 1600 words)

Australia's coffee capital Melbourne is a city with a vibrant coffee culture. Here the aromatic bean is not just a drink, it's an essential ingredient for 'the good life', and often it's not just an important daily occasion but also an obsession. With an overwhelming abundance of truly great cafes, some run by the nation's leading coffee importers and roasters, it's easy to see why Melbournians are some of the most 'coffee literate' of the nation's drinkers. Here's ten of the best where it's hip to sip in the Aussie city by the bay.

"Jacobs Creek-Australia's Top Drop" (1500 words)

Jacob's Creek is the best ambassador of Australian wines that are now famous and appreciated throughout the world. ANDREW MARSHALL travels to South Australia's Barossa Valley, the place where it all started.

BARBADOS

"Rum Shops of Barbados" (1500 words)

On Barbados, the chances of finding rum wherever you go are about one thousand percent - one percent for every rum shop on the island. Part pub, part convenience store, part social centre, these sugar-cane shacks are the best places to "fire one" with your friendly neighbourhood Bajans.

BELGIUM

"A Passion for Chocolate"(1200,1500 & 1800 words)

Belgium's leading chocolate makers pursue a distinguished, time honoured craft, writes Andrew Marshall. Belgium is synonymous with chocolate, and the nations' specialty known as bonbons or pralines (chocolates with creamy fillings), are considered by many connoisseurs to be the best in the world. Anyone strolling around the heart of Brussels or the medieval city of Bruges can't fail to notice the magical interaction between the romantic history and the scattering of the numerous chocolate stores. The charm of times gone by seems to blend effortlessly with the pure artesian character of the old and new generation of chocolatiers (chocolate makers).

"Beer Necessity" (1600 words)

ANDREW MARSHALL heads to Belgium and embarks on a five-day beer journey through the historic towns, cities and villages of the country's Flanders' region...

CANADA

"A Taste of the Atlantic" (1600 words)

It may be small, but Canada's Prince Edward Island is heaven for seafood lovers. Only 280km from tip to tip, Prince Edward Island (known locally as PEI) is Canada's tiniest province, but still manages to punch above its weight in the culinary world. Its pristine waters and beaches, in particular produce some of the planet's finest seafood in a smorgasbord that's as inspiring as its magnificent red sands and salt-sprayed red cliffs. Foodies know it as shellfish heaven, thanks to its abundance of local specialities such as oysters, lobster, mussels, clams and scallops. PEI has several other qualities to recommend it too. In addition to the first-rate seafood, factors like stunning scenery, a moderate climate, friendly locals and plentiful activities all add to the island's appeal.

CARIBBEAN

"The Caribbean Spirit" (RUM on BARBADOS, MARTINIQUE & THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC)1600 (plus

extra drinks section)

Rum conjures up images of sailors, pirates and smugglers rolling out barrels of liquid gold on to isolated beaches by the light of a silvery moon. The English know it as rum, the French say *rhum* and the Spanish call it *ron*, but no matter how you say it, it's intrinsically connected with the Caribbean. ANDREW MARSHALL visits a trio of countries in the region where some of the world's best rums are produced...

CUBA

"On the Cigar & Cocktail Trail" (1225)

Cigar aficionado Andrew Marshall makes a pilgrimage to Havana to visit the Partagas cigar factory and sample the hedonistic delights of the cities' cocktail and cigar culture. A man's voice crackles over an antiquated loud speaker system as he reads a chapter from a Gabriel Garcia Marquez novel, the words filling the vast room where dozens of men and women listen. With heads bowed over long wooden workbenches and with their hands methodically rolling, chopping and tucking, they create Cuba's most famous product.

DENMARK

"Beer & Bars in Copenhagen" (1200 words)

Think of Copenhagen, arguably Scandinavia's coolest and most cosmopolitan city and several images may spring to mind; cutting-edge design, fabulous fashion, tall good-looking locals and perhaps the famed Tivoli amusement park. But, it's also here that beer rules supreme, and alongside a rich brewing tradition, is a new wave of microbreweries and brewpubs popping up around town. Beer aficionados ANDREW MARSHALL & PAUL MARSHALL visit some breweries and bars to sink a few classic pilsners and bespoke brews in and around the Danish capital.

ENGLAND

"Tea time in London" (1350 words)

"Anyone for a cuppa?" "Madam, your tea is served." "How about a brew?" From mugs of tea at classic cafes to delicate teas served in bone china at elegant London hotels, tea is undeniably Britain's favourite beverage and has long played an important role in its culture. Here's a selection of tea establishments to provide a refreshing slant when visiting the capital:

"All Cheeses Great & Small" (1500 words)

A journey through the picturesque Yorkshire Dales (Swaledale & Wensleydale) visiting artisan cheese-makers of sheep milk, cows milk and goat's milk cheeses.

"London Spice" (1200 & 1500 words)

The humble curry has long been Britain's adopted national dish but now the Tandoori has turned chic. We explore London's gourmet Indian restaurants.

"Fish & Brits" (1460 (plus 5 of the best, fact file and recipes)

Whether it be wrapped in paper or served piping hot on a plate, the great British dish is still going strong. Andrew Marshall reports.

"Sugar & Spice Up North" (1350 words plus: "10 Classic Sweets" "10 Interesting Facts" & "6 of the Best Yorkshire Sweet Shops")

What child can resist the temptation of an old-fashioned sweet shop or what adult for that matter? Although many have disappeared from our high streets in recent years and become a thing of the past, the good news is, that at The Oldest Sweet Shop In England in the picturesque Yorkshire Dales village of Pateley Bridge, these nostalgic memories of sugar and spice are still a reality.

"London's Classic Caffe" (1200 words)

Sometimes described as 'caffs' or 'greasy spoons' - London cafes have been part of the city scape for more

than half a century and these snug, warm havens beloved of workmen and famed for their all-day breakfasts, are microcosms of British urban culture, architecture and interior design. This feature covers 5 classic cafes including a pie and mash cafe and cabbie's shelters.

"Eats & Drinks Yorkshire" (1500 words)

A piece covering a range of interesting food & drinks experiences in Yorkshire including the World's oldest sweet shop, highest pub in England, fish & chips, bakery, Whitby kippers, and a winery in Holmfirth

"Eats Of London" (1800 words)

ANDREW MARSHALL heads to London to sample a selection of culinary establishments with a traditional and historic flavour... (includes La Manze Pie & Mash shop, England's oldest restaurant, East End Food Tour, Classic London Cafe, London's oldest Indian restaurant, Fish & Chip shop, Cabbie Shelter, Borough Market, Twinings Tea Shop and a traditional London pub.

EUROPE

Cheese, Glorious, Cheese (1200 & 1400 words)

Andrew Marshall takes us on a cheesy tour around Europe's best regions for this dairy delight.

Gastro tourism is big business right now. It seems many of us are no longer just satisfied with visiting well worn cities and sites, and we're taking the requisite Instagrams to prove it. Now, we want something else from our journeys, an authentic experience that isn't just about seeing, but smelling and touching and tasting too. The cornerstone of this epicurean exploration movement is the lure of discovering delicacies at their source. Perhaps no other food lends itself to such consideration – and adoration - as cheese. From gargantuan wheels of Parmesan to chunks of rustic Wensleydale to creamy, oozy Camembert, tracking cheese's journey from paddock to plate transports the traveller to bucolic country idylls and through centuries of tradition and practice. And it also provides ample opportunity to sample the wares!

"Europe on a Platter" (1600 words)

Eating and drinking is big part of any travel experience. ANDREW MARSHALL travels to a selection of European cities to sample their unique gastronomic delight. (Brussels, Budapest, Paris, Bologna, & Madrid)

"Europe in a Glass" (1800 words)

Drinking is a significant part of any travel experience and whether it's a beer in a Danish bar, a flute of bubbly in France or a smooth Irish whiskey enjoyed after a distillery tour - there's nothing better than savoring the local product in place where its produced. ANDREW MARSHALL travels to five European countries to sample their unique liquid refreshments. Champagne/France, Port/Portugal, Vodka/Sweden, Beer/Denmark, Whiskey/N. Ireland

"A Taste of Europe" (1,266 words)

ANDREW MARSHALL travels to several European countries to sample a selection of unique gastronomic places and experiences...including Snuffling for Truffles Italy, Cheese, glorious cheese England, Seafood Heaven Portugal, Take a whiskey tour Northern Ireland, Gorging on Chocolates Belgium, Dine with a difference Germany, Champagne Tasting France, The Smokie Trail Scotland, Historic Dining Sweden, Enjoying a pint Ireland, Tapas crawling Spain, Sugar & Spice England.

FIJI

"Kava - Fiji's Traditional Brew" (1000 words)

Drinking kava is an age old ceremony that is alive and well in the islands of Fiji. The drink is an infusion made from the pounded roots of the *piper methysticum* shrub. When it is first offered, it is considered rude to refuse, and because it is famous for tasting worse than muddy water, it is a challenge many travellers to Fiji will face from time to time.

FRANCE

"A Gourmet Paris Picnic" (1200 words)

Paris - the city that embodies beauty and romance is truly a feast for the senses. It is especially a city to taste; an espresso and croissant at a sidewalk café, a simple picnic of fresh bread, cheese and local wine, exploring the fruit and vegetable markets and perhaps a sweet indulgence at one of the city's legendary chocolate shops...

"Champagnes & Châteaux" (1682 words)

"Remember, gentlemen, its not just France we are fighting for, its Champagne." Winston Churchill. "Champagne makes you feel like its Sunday and better days are just around the corner." Marlene Dietrich, German actress. "Any man who drinks Dom Pérignon '52 can't be all bad." James Bond in The Spy Who Loved Me. "Drinking Champagne after making love is like taking a bath in chilled pearls." Anistatia R Miller, author of Champagne Cocktails.

"Calavados & Cheese in Normandy" (1500 words)

Just over an hour's drive from Paris, a world of golden Calvados and fragrant cheeses await in the Pays D'Auge region.

GREECE

"Island of the Good Oil" (1200 words plus recipes)

Crete, Greece's largest and most southerly island, is know for many things: ancient archaeological sites, spectacular hiking and long, sandy beaches that speckle the coastline. It is also here that the olive tree reigns supreme, and where some of the world's best-quality olive oil is produced.

INDIA

"A Taste of Goa" (1400 words)

For a more authentic culinary experience, spend some time in Goa's capital Panaji, where you can sample not only local specialties but also feasibly attempt a gastronomic tour of the whole of India.

IRELAND

"Dublin Pubs- 10 of the Best" (1037 words)

Dublin abounds with old-style traditional establishments where you can enter a stranger and leave as a friend. Here are ten of the best Dublin pubs for the beer connoisseur...

ITALY

"A Taste of Emilia Romagna" (1500 words)

Take journey through Italy's noble towns of Parma, Modena and Bologna to savour some of the legendary foods produced there.

"On the hunt for white diamonds" (1500 words)

ANDREW MARSHALL travels to the Piedmont region of northern Italy to unearth the secrets of the white truffle.

JAMAICA

"Flavours of Jamaica" (1550 words)

Jamaica's sugary sand beaches, aquamarine waters and cheek-caressing trade winds are merely the appetisers - it's also a feast of many tastes and flavours. ANDREW MARSHALL samples some of the island's gastronomic delights...

MARTINIQUE

"The Rum Coast" (1600 words)

Rum conjures up images of sailors, pirates or smugglers rolling out barrels of the liquid gold on to isolated beaches by the light of a silvery moon. It's also intrinsically connected with the islands of the Caribbean.

ANDREW MARSHALL & PAUL MARSHALL visit Martinique where some of the world's most prized rums are produced...

MOROCCO

"Feasting in Fes -A Gastronomic Journey" 1250 (plus fact file and recipes)

From robust roasts to rich aromatic stews, spiced or sweetened salads to savoury pastries, fragrant mounds of couscous to bastilla, an exquisite blend of shredded pigeon, a spiced onion sauce with saffron and herbs encased in a flaky, filo-like pastry topped with cinnamon and sugar - an intricate dish that epitomises everything that is grand and extravagant in Moroccan cooking.

NORTHERN IRELAND

"Old Bushmills- Home of Irish Whiskey" (1200 words)

ANDREW MARSHALL and PAUL MARSHALL take a pilgrimage to legendary 'Old Bushmills' -the world's oldest licensed whiskey distillery.

NETHERLANDS

"A Taste of Amsterdam" (1500-2000 words)

We travel around Amsterdam visiting a range of traditional and contemporary eating and drinking establishments ranging from markets, shops, cafes, bars, breweries and food tours

PORTUGAL

"Land of the Purple Nectar-Port" (1500 words)

Port. The mere mention of the word is likely to conjure up images of elderly professors sniffing and swirling glasses of the rich, ruby-coloured wine, discussing philosophy by the side of a log fire.

SCOTLAND

"Taste of the Scottish Islands" (1200 words)

ANDREW MARSHALL goes island hopping in Scotland's southern Hebrides to discover a region rich in smoky single-malts and fine local produce. For the gourmet traveller, this cluster of isles off Scotland's southwest coast has all the right ingredients; spectacular scenery, colourful fishing villages, turquoise waters, lonely beaches of pure white sand, friendly locals, world-class single malts and wonderful local food.

SPAIN

"Madrid on a platter" (1300 words)

Life in the Spanish capital revolves around food and drink Andrew Marshall visits some of his favourite haunts.

"Tapas time in Mallorca" (1226 words)

Ever since the 1950s when the first charter flights began to arrive in Mallorca, the largest of the Balearic Islands has continued to attract millions of visitors every year in search of its sunny climate, vibrant nightlife and some of the most beautiful stretches of sand in the Mediterranean. But there's much more to the 'Golden Isle' than the beach scene. How about the historic capital of Palma, picturesque mountain village of Deià, ancient castles, fantastic caves, the spectacular Serra de Tramuntana mountain range, and a rich local gastronomy?

SRI LANKA

"Journey in the Island of Tea" (1100 (plus 500 word tea section, extra things To see and do)

Hanging like a ripe piece of mango from the Indian subcontinent, Sri Lanka is a bewitching land of gentle people, ancient Buddhist shrines, and picturesque tea plantations. ANDREW MARSHALL takes a journey:

SWEDEN

"Cool Stockholm – 6 & 10 Eats and Drinks" (1000 & 1600 words)

In recent years Stockholm, 'Venice of the North' has become one of Europe's liveliest and most varied cities for eating and drinking. From classic restaurants and cool bars, to colourful food halls and groovy cafés, here's ten of the best:

"Ice Cool - Vodka Bars of Stockholm"(1000 words)

"Welcome to a world of –5 degrees Celsius," says the doorman standing outside the bar. Dressed in the provided clothing of boots, mittens and a warm silver fur-lined poncho I feel like an extra in a Star Wars movie entering what literally must be, one of the coolest places around to drink vodka. This is the Ice Bar in Stockholm's Nordic Sea Hotel at the start of my mission – to check out some of the cities' best vodka establishments.

THAILAND

"Bangkok's Sidewalk Gourmets" (1200 words plus recipes)

A visit to Bangkok isn't just about exotic sights such as the Grand Palace and the magnificent reclining Buddha. Eating at the numerous food stalls and vendor carts can turn a stroll along the city's streets into a culinary adventure...

USA

"It's hip to sip in San Francisco" (1000 words)

As you take in the sights of San Francisco, you'll never find a shortage of coffee in the city by the bay. And we don't mean Starbucks...

"Classic Diners of New York – 5 of the Best" (1200 words)

Grab a stool at one of New York's few remaining classic diners while you can - the pre-fab beauties are becoming an endangered species. Andrew Marshall checks out five of the best:

"Life Over Easy- Creole Cooking in New Orleans" (1000 words)

Andrew Marshall experiences the culinary delights to be had in the vibrant and colourful Louisiana city that is New Orleans.

"Classic Burger Joints of New York" (1600 words)

Burger culture is taken surprisingly seriously in New York and countless best burger lists deliberate over who grills up the city's finest bartime delicacy. Some of the most celebrated and historic burger establishments like the Corner Bistro and P.J Clarke's have become staples in New York guidebooks, but a number of hip new places have recently emerged in one of the world's most competitive burger scenes. There's literally thousands of places to buy a burger in New York, but here's a selection of standouts to satisfy your deepest red meat cravings...

VARIOUS

"Food of the Gods" (1700 words + fact box 600 words)

Certain culinary products are associated with luxury, indulgence, seduction and pleasure and feature regularly at celebrations and special occasions. What follows is a quartet of epicurean delights highly sought after by connoisseurs and some of the people who have a role to play in their creation... White Truffles, Chocolate, Oysters, Champagne

"World on a plate" (2000 words)

Eating is a significant part of any travel experience, and whether it's enjoying a lamb and pear tajine in Morocco, some spicy jerk chicken in Jamaica or a green chicken curry in Thailand, there's nothing better than savouring a dish in its country of origin, plus it's a great way to meet the locals. ANDREW MARSHALL travels to five countries to sample their unique cuisines... Indian, Thai, Moroccan, Spanish & Jamaican.

"Around The World in 10 Dishes"(1800 words)

Eating is a significant part of any travel experience and whether it's tucking into burger and fries in New York,

a Currywurst in Berlin or spicy jerk chicken in Montego Bay, there's nothing better than savouring a meal synonymous with its country or place of origin, plus it's a great way to meet the locals. Here are ten quintessential dishes in ten countries and where to sample them...

"Regional Foods of Britain" (1200 words)

A feature covering a range of foods that relate to specific places in Britain and some of the people that produce them including pie and mash (London), Wensleydale Cheese, Yorkshire Rhubarb, Cornish Pasties, Arbroath Smokies....