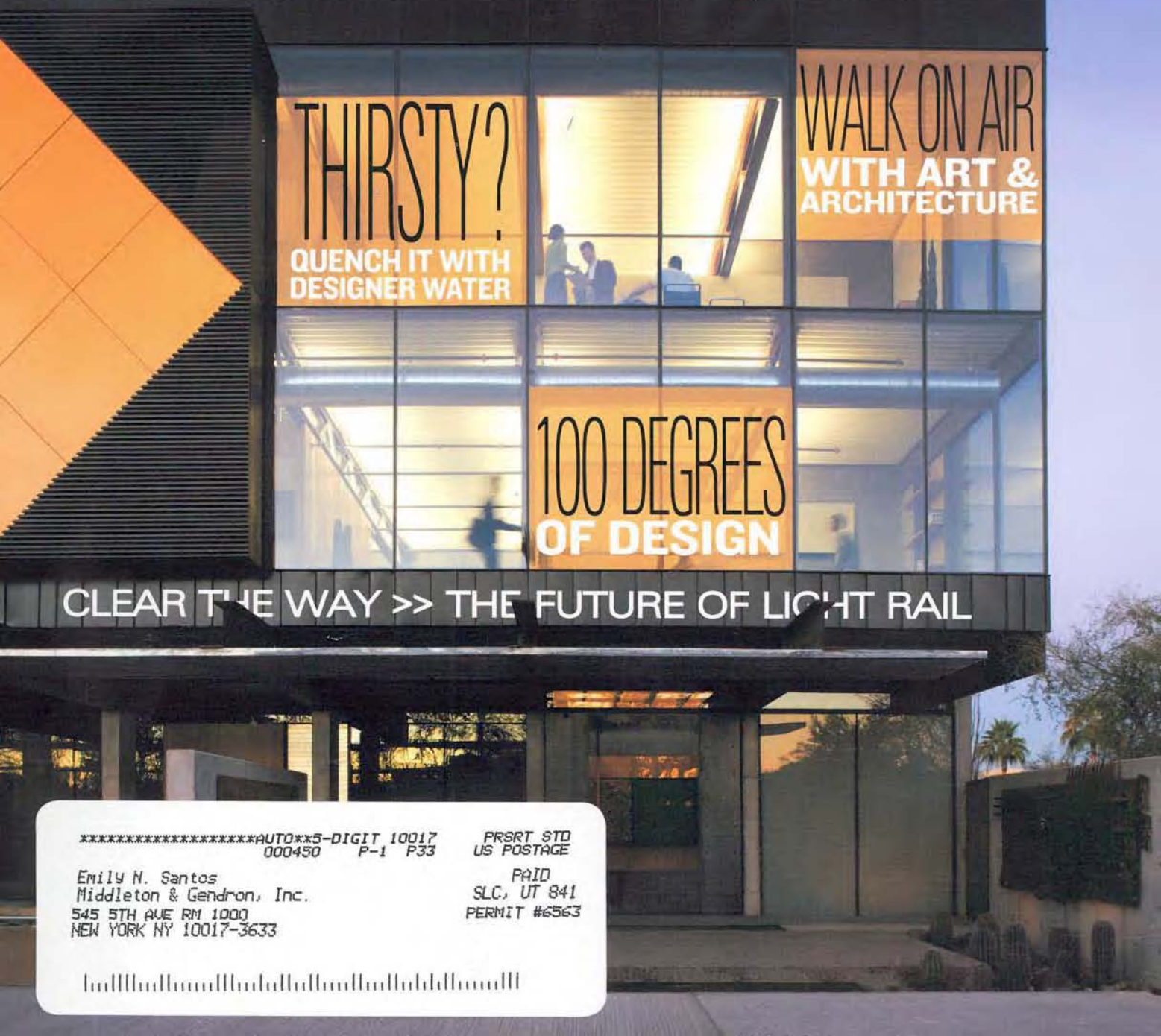


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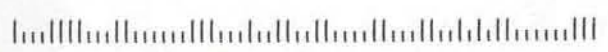
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DESTINATION: BARBADOS

Island Fever

Frolicking on a serene white-sand beach isn't the only way to have a good time in Barbados. On this cosmopolitan island, one can splurge on an exotic shopping spree, or venture to an upscale nightspot once the sun goes down. And, if the myriad sugar cane fields weren't enough of a reminder, there's plenty of rum. Swaying palm trees and crisp white curtains and pillows give **Whispers on the Bay** restaurant (246-826-5222, wispersonthebay.com) in Bridgetown a decidedly South Beach feel. Sit on the sprawling outdoor deck for lobster salad with truffle vinaigrette and vanilla scented salmon with cranberry beurre blanc. Alternatively, it's hard to imagine a more surreal



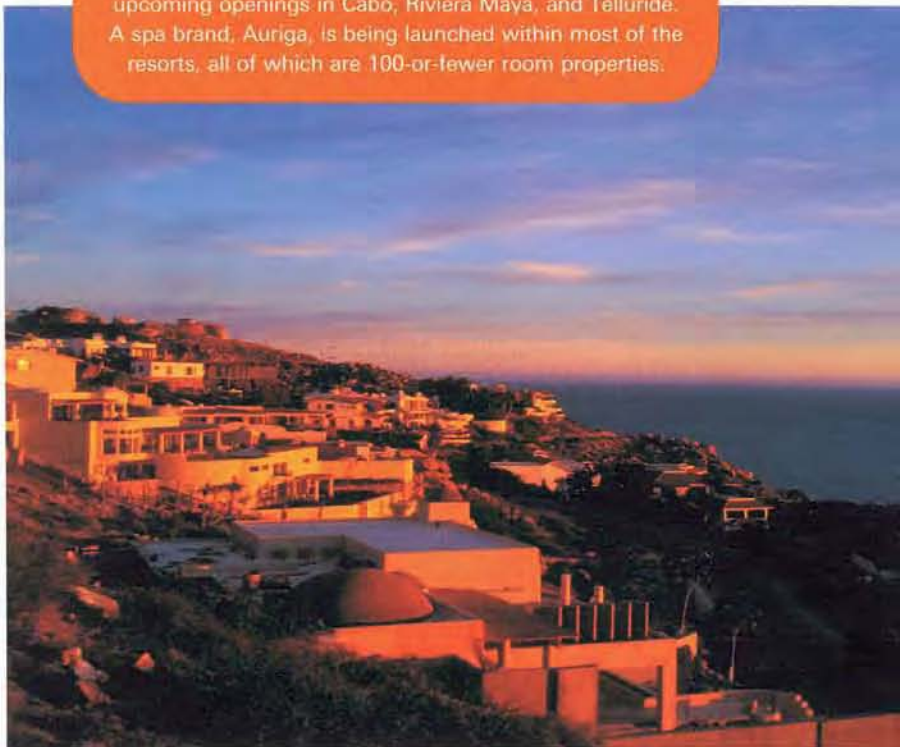
DESTINATION: MEXICO

View to Thrill

There are great resorts in Cabo. Fabulous ones, actually. But only one is being built on a parcel of land called Land's End, at the southernmost tip of the Baja peninsula, where the Sea of Cortez meets the Pacific Ocean. When prominent Mexican real estate developers, the Diaz Rivera family, decided to build on this site, they called Horst Schulze, the man who pioneered the modern-day vision of the Ritz-Carlton hotel chain. Schulze's plan for Land's End (actual view pictured here), a resort called Capella Pedregal, should be taking reservations as you read this. Every visitor will experience a breathtakingly orchestrated entry through a private, 300-meter tunnel carved into the mountainside, culminating at Pedregal's entrance courtyard overlooking a long expanse of beach and the ocean. The 66-room property will include four restaurants, a dramatically designed spa, private club, and residential sales options. Expect more on this property after its official opening. —DT

More: capellacabo.com

As the former prez. at the Ritz-Carlton, Horst Schulze knows how to make your stay a luxurious one. Keep an eye on his new brand, Capella Hotels & Resorts, with properties already open in Austria, Germany, and Ireland, and upcoming openings in Cabo, Riviera Maya, and Telluride. A spa brand, Auriga, is being launched within most of the resorts, all of which are 100-or-fewer room properties.



DESTINATION: VAIL

Liken It, Lovin' It

Eating elk carpaccio and braised rabbit might not be your cup of tea. But to us, it's a Long Island iced tea (waitress, we'll have another). Especially in rustic, mountainous Vail, Col. Restaurant Kelly Liken. Sink your fork into a savory bison tartare with grilled brioche while nipping a glass of red and relishing the majesty of the Rockies. Jetsetters and epicures alike rave about the cuisine's fresh, local ingredients, friendly staff, and warm yet trendy atmosphere. Chef/owner Kelly Liken is only 31, but she prepares her menu items with the tactful sensibility of a seasoned pro: lamb loin over sourdough bread pudding specked with sage and chevre; potato crusted trout filets with caramelized Brussels sprouts, toasted pecans, and raisins; or crispy organic pork belly with cranberry conserve and blue cheese froth (pictured). Liken handcrafts some of the cocktails herself – not to mention the 250+ wine list boasts 60 wines available by the glass. —LS

More: Gateway Building, 12 Vail Road, Ste. 100; 970.479.0175; kellyliken.com

