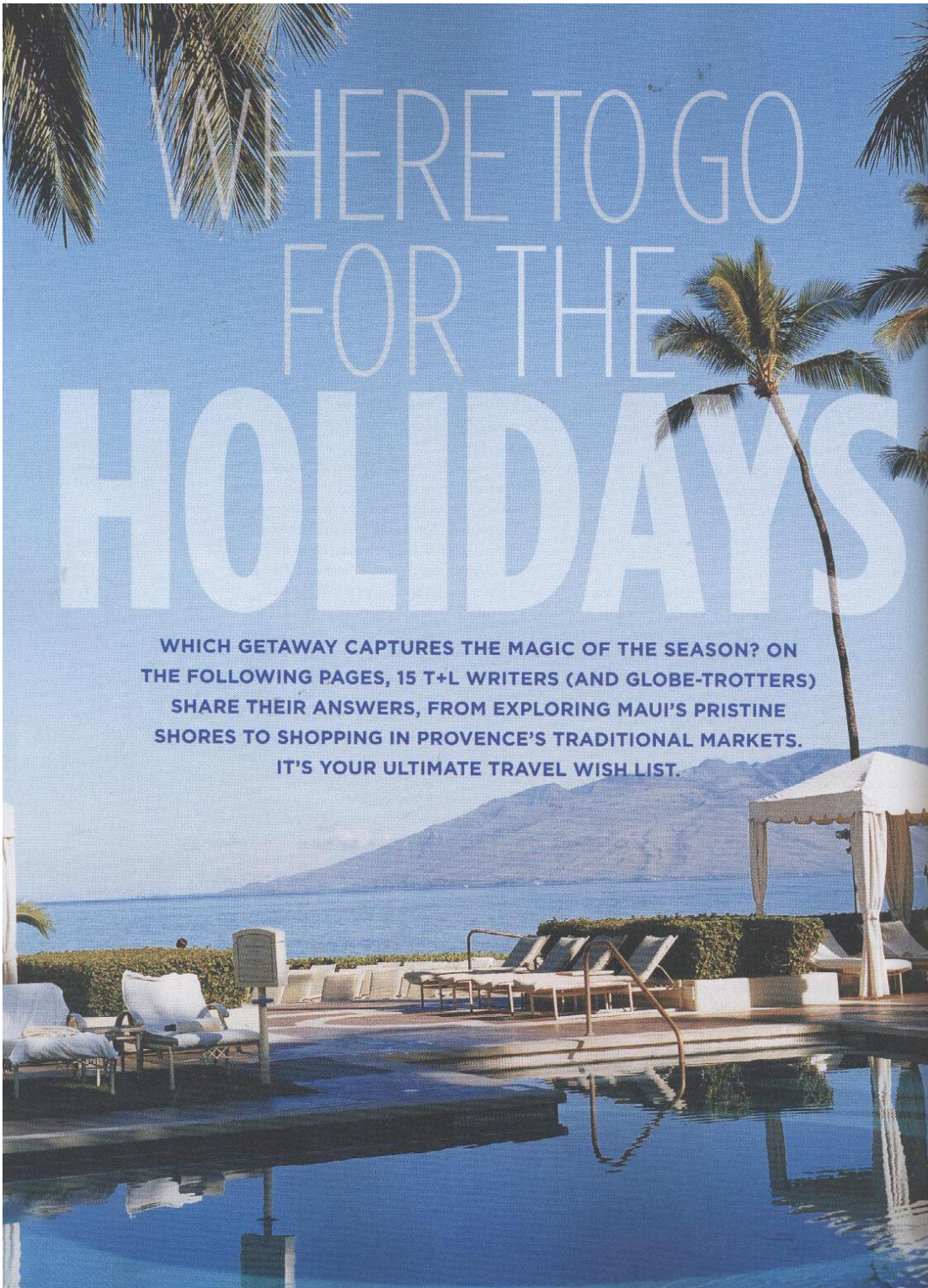


Travel + Leisure – November 2010



(Continued from page 193)

NEW DELHI

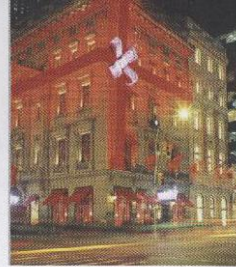
India



HOLIDAY DELIGHTS From left: Beaded jewelry at Khan Market's Jay Raj Arts, in Lutyens' Delhi; New York City's Fifth Avenue; the patio at the recently opened W Retreat & Spa, in Vieques.

Fog shrouds the early morning yoga classes in the **Lodi Gardens** where insiders practice their dawn asanas as I make my way to **Khan Market**, in Lutyens' Delhi. It's a place I discovered by chance on my first trip to India when the concierge of the **Taj Mansingh Hotel** sent me to the nearest ATM. Then as now, the market is a postcolonial time capsule, where even the priciest new stores retain a raffish charm. Who can resist the turquoise gift wrap festooned with gold-leaf Hindi script at **Anand Stationers**? The owner totes up my holiday purchases on a pad with carbon paper inserts as if it were 1956. At **Fabindia**, I find housewares and silk fabrics, tablecloths, and kurtas. Nearby, **Bahrison's** booksellers is stacked with volumes dating back 50 years, while **Jay Raj Arts**

sells colorful beaded necklaces and bracelets. My suitcase is full. But before going home, there's one last stop: **Khan Chacha's** for a tasty chicken tikka kebab. —MARIE BRENNER
Taj Mansingh Hotel (1 Mansingh Rd.; 866/969-1825; tajhotels.com; doubles from \$473). *Khan Market: Anand Stationers* (Stall 25B, next to Citibank; 91-11/2462-8238); *Fabindia* (Central Hall, above shops 20 and 21; 91-11/4368-3100); *Bahrison's* (Arcade ABC, opposite main gate, 91-11/2469-4610); *Jay Raj Arts* (basement of stall 25B; 91-98/9180-7919; Khan Chacha's (Flat 50; 91-98/1115-2722).



NEW YORK

New York

You know what makes Christmas shopping in Manhattan so magical. You know—because you have seen or imagined it—that the city becomes enchanted. Even the most hard-charging of executives will, upon leaving **Broadway Panhandler** with armfuls of kitchenware pressed resentfully to their topcoats, catch a whiff of candied nuts or make eye contact with a Santa and renounce their greedy ways. Exiting the **New York Public Library's Shop** with a clutch of retro magnifying glasses, there is snow all of a sudden. Staggering out of **Teuscher's** chocolate boutique, your breath is snatched away by the hugeness of the Rockefeller Center tree, and though another year is gone, you feel a joy more sweet than bitter. —BRUNO MADDOX
Broadway Panhandler (65 E. Eighth St.; 212/966-3434); *New York Public Library* (Fifth Ave. at 42nd St.; 212/930-0641); *Teuscher* (620 Fifth Ave.; 800/554-0924).

VIEQUES

Puerto Rico

I spot wild ponies on

an empty stretch of beach—a sight not so unusual on this unspoiled island that's been my winter haven for the past 12 years. In Esperanza (on the southern side of Vieques), I take my kids snorkeling off Sun Bay, which looks out onto Cayo de Tierra strewn with huge pink conch shells. Silver rays nuzzle up to us on the twilight kayak tour booked with **Black Beard Sports**. The island's historic half, Isabel Segunda, fills with lights during the holidays, and we feast on conch and calabaza fritters at **El Quenepo**. For New Year's, we camp out at nearby Green Beach to watch the sun set. Or, with a cocktail in hand, on the patio at the recently opened **W Retreat & Spa**. —MELIK KAYLAN
Black Beard Sports (101 Muñoz Rivera St., Isabel Segunda; 787/741-1892; blackbeardsports.com; kayak rentals \$35 per person per day); *El Quenepo* (148 Flamboyán St., Esperanza; 787/741-1215; dinner for two \$70); *W Retreat & Spa - Vieques Island* (Km 3.2, State Rd. 200, Vieques; 877/946-8357; whotels.com; doubles from \$659).



T+L RECOMMENDS: WHERE TO SEE THE BEST HOLIDAY LIGHTS

In **WOODSTOCK, VERMONT**, 400 candlelit lanterns set the village green aglow during the three-day Wassail Weekend (Dec. 10–12; woodstockvt.com), which includes a horse-filled parade, sleigh rides, and carolers trudging through the snow. ➤ During the Eve of St. Nicholas celebration in **KÜSSNACHT, SWITZERLAND**, on the shores of Lake Lucerne, hundreds of local men march through town in their *iffelen*, ornately decorated bishops' hats lit from within. ➤ On New Year's Eve, the ski school of **STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, COLORADO**, descends the mountain in an undulating snake formation, gripping upturned flares instead of poles. ➤ In the walled Umbrian town of **CITTÀ DI CASTELLO, ITALY**, residents in Santa outfits float down the Tiber in illuminated canoes on Christmas Eve, delivering presents to children by the bridge at Porta San Florida. —JAMES JUNG AND NICHOLAS TEDDY

