

# Condé Nast Traveler

APRIL 2019

*The  
Experts  
Issue  
2019*

*Our editors' pick of the best travel specialists in the world*

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THE EDITORS' PICK

# THE WORLD'S BEST TRAVEL SPECIALISTS 2019

Booking a trip with an exceptional travel adviser has huge upsides. They remove the burden of the niggling details (the visas, the transfers, the reservations), but far more than that, they have the insider knowledge, the prolific contacts, the exclusive access, and the sharp instincts to transform a vacation into an experience of a lifetime, whether it's tracking Siberian tigers in Russia's Far East or celebrating Day of the Dead in Michoacán. Here's a taste of *Condé Nast Traveler's* Top Travel Specialists for 2019: the agents and fixers, explorers and connoisseurs, historians and naturalists, instigators and hand-holders we most highly recommend. For the complete list of all 185 of our trusted experts, go to [cntraveler.com/travel-specialists](http://cntraveler.com/travel-specialists).

BY ALEX POSTMAN AND CHRISTINE CANTERA

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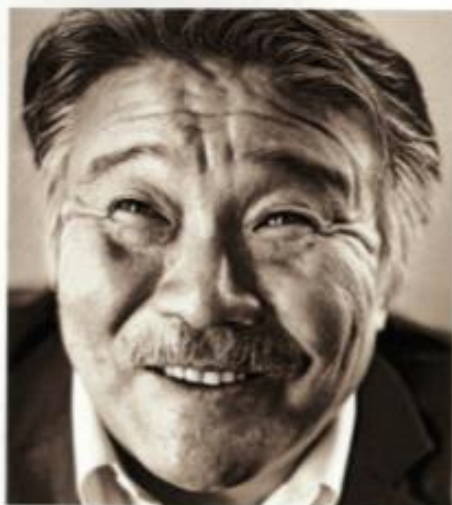


CATHERINE HEALD

REMOTE LANDS, SOUTHEAST ASIA AND JAPAN

“Fear of mediocrity” compels Heald to plunge into Asia’s still-mysterious pockets, from the snowy shrines of Tohoku, Japan, to the rice terraces of Banaue, Philippines.

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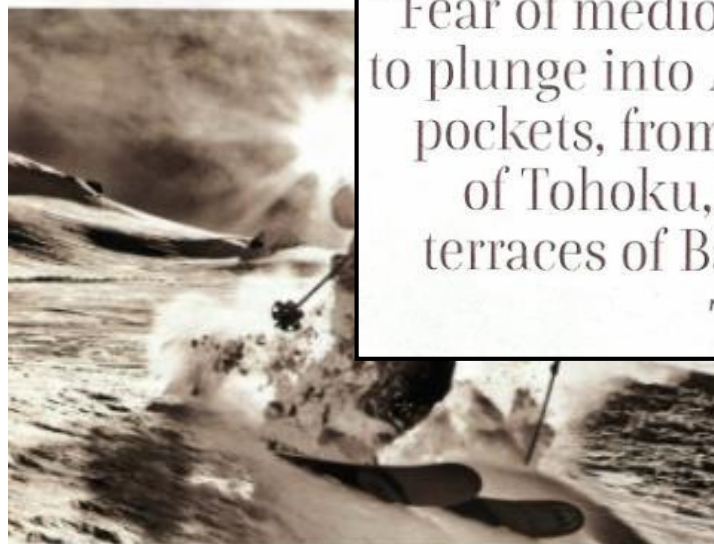


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the wildflower-carpeted trails of Zermatt or free riding in the Dolomites’ Val Mezdi. While Epic Europe offers its share of adrenaline-jacking point-to-point trekking, heli-skiing, and Alpine climbing, Shaw is also tight with small wine producers and local farmers who’ll open up their sky-high barns for cheese making, and he can snag last-minute VIP tickets to the Montreux Jazz Festival or Art Basel. [epicseurope.com](http://epicseurope.com)

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