

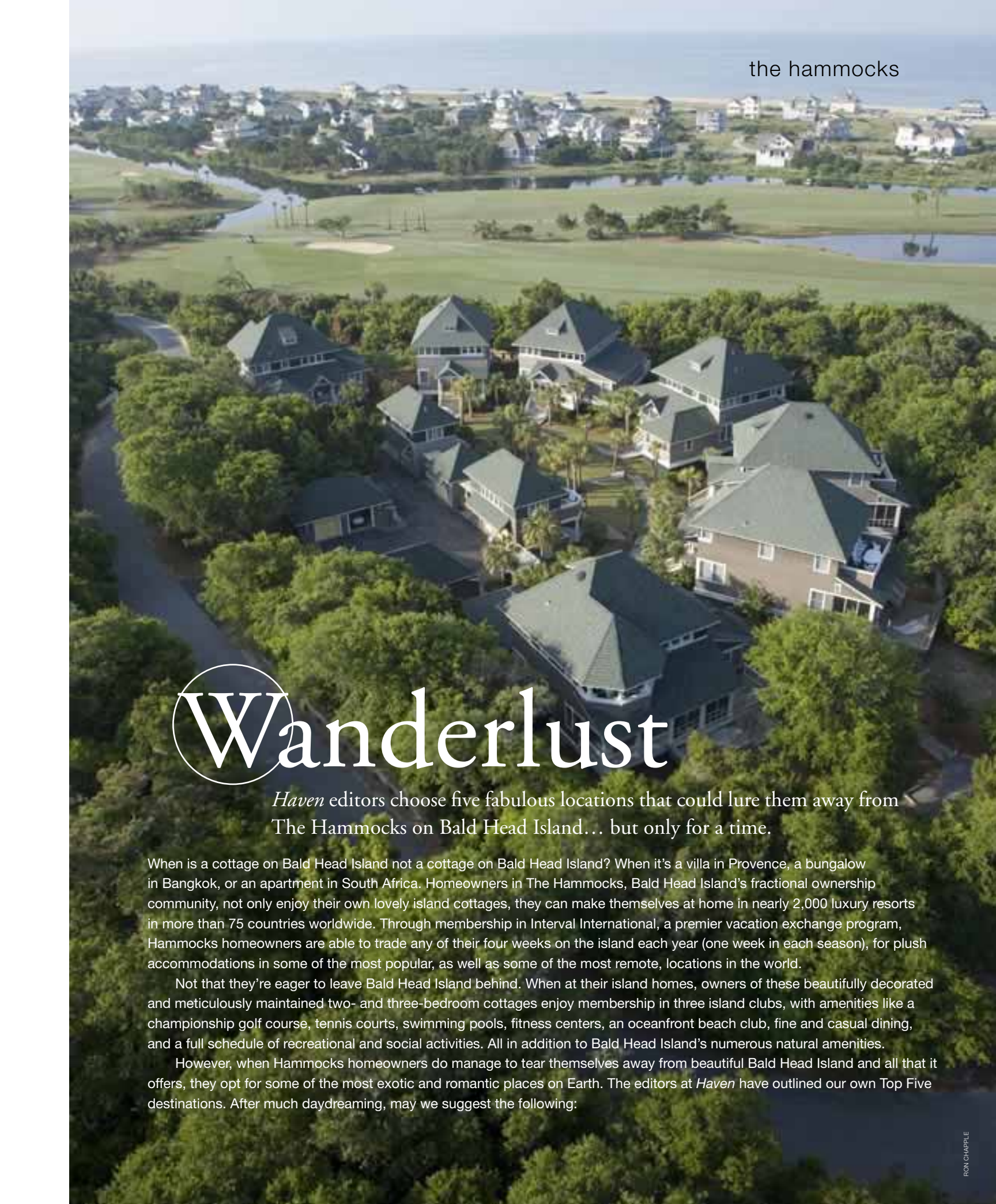


haven

A magazine exploring the *exceptional nature* of Bald Head Island, N.C.



Bald Head Island Limited
*The Island Professionals*SM



the hammocks

Wanderlust

Haven editors choose five fabulous locations that could lure them away from The Hammocks on Bald Head Island... but only for a time.

When is a cottage on Bald Head Island not a cottage on Bald Head Island? When it's a villa in Provence, a bungalow in Bangkok, or an apartment in South Africa. Homeowners in The Hammocks, Bald Head Island's fractional ownership community, not only enjoy their own lovely island cottages, they can make themselves at home in nearly 2,000 luxury resorts in more than 75 countries worldwide. Through membership in Interval International, a premier vacation exchange program, Hammocks homeowners are able to trade any of their four weeks on the island each year (one week in each season), for plush accommodations in some of the most popular, as well as some of the most remote, locations in the world.

Not that they're eager to leave Bald Head Island behind. When at their island homes, owners of these beautifully decorated and meticulously maintained two- and three-bedroom cottages enjoy membership in three island clubs, with amenities like a championship golf course, tennis courts, swimming pools, fitness centers, an oceanfront beach club, fine and casual dining, and a full schedule of recreational and social activities. All in addition to Bald Head Island's numerous natural amenities.

However, when Hammocks homeowners do manage to tear themselves away from beautiful Bald Head Island and all that it offers, they opt for some of the most exotic and romantic places on Earth. The editors at *Haven* have outlined our own Top Five destinations. After much daydreaming, may we suggest the following:

5

Singapore

From ancient Hindu temples to thoroughly modern high rises, this thriving international seaport throbs with the rhythms of a multi-cultural society. Situated on the southern tip of the Malay Peninsula, Singapore's strategic location along the busy shipping routes connecting Europe to China created its modern-day economy, as well as its diversity of immigrant cultures reflecting almost 200 years of colonial history.

The center of tourism is the Orchard Road District, dominated by multi-story shopping centers, hotels and restaurants, along with the Singapore River's numerous pubs, boutiques and seafood restaurants.

But the city's reputation as a clean, green, tropical environment is also well deserved. You can gaze at more than 3,000 species of orchids at the 128-acre Botanic Gardens, visit the open-concept Singapore Zoo with its park-like setting and famous Night Safari, commune with nature at the Bukit Timah Nature Reserve and then flock to the Jurong BirdPark where thousands of exotic birds live, many free to come and go as they please.



4

Fiji Islands

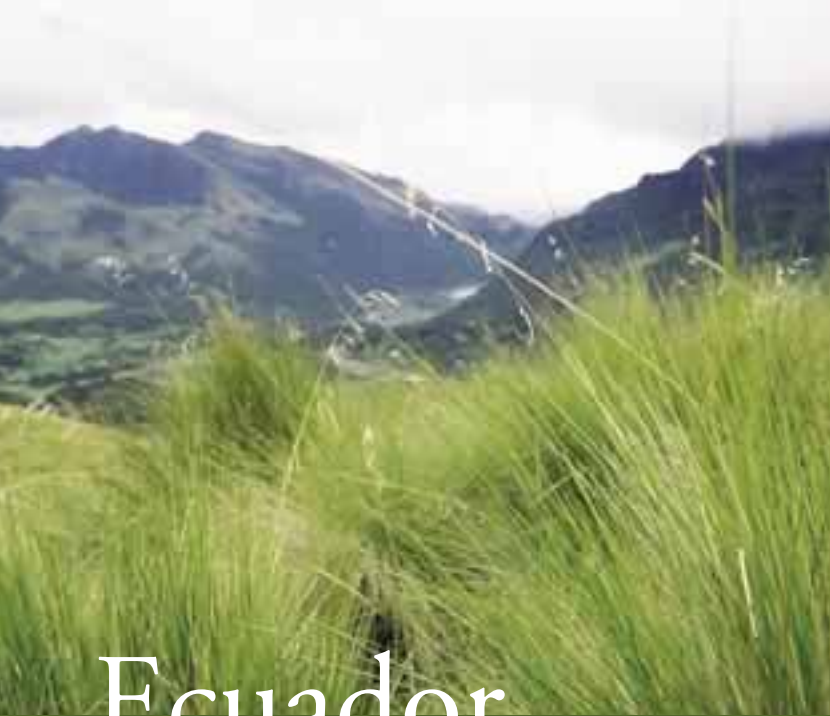
An archipelago of 333 islands at the crossroads of the South Pacific, Fiji has become synonymous with "exotic."

Here, natives wear flowers in their hair just because. Surfers have their choice of world-class spots, including the famous Cloud Break, while honeymooners cocoon in secluded thatched roof cottages beside impossibly turquoise lagoons. And nature lovers, well, they have a heyday with quiet walks along pristine beaches and through lush rainforests, rigorous treks through breathtaking mountains and around stunning waterfalls, snorkeling or diving over giant gardens of rainbow coral, kayaking the spectacular Taveuni coast, and birdwatching just about everywhere.

The home of Vijay Singh, Fiji has five of the most picturesque 18-hole golf courses in the world. The native culture still includes communal principles based on village life, and the people, led by a hereditary chief, are some of the warmest, most welcoming hosts imaginable.

For Interval International vacationers, the Malolo Lailai Lagoon or WorldMark Denarau Island resorts offer comprehensive Fiji Islands adventures including trips to nearby islands.





Ecuador

From the northern beaches of Esmeraldas province to the mountainside of the majestic Tungurahura volcano, Interval International's Ecuadorian resorts offer unforgettable experiences. The smallest country in the rugged Andean highlands, Ecuador straddles the Equator (about a third of the country is above the planet's midriff). Notable for visitors to the region are its indigenous cultures, colonial architecture, dense rainforest and volcanic landscapes.

Several highlights and attractions for those who like to explore the countryside include the Saturday morning Riobamba market, a cable car ride in Quito to the top of the volcanic mountains, and the Monastery of San Diego.

For those who'd rather stay close by the resorts, there are beautiful beaches, splendid views, tennis, golf and walks in nearby ecological reserves and parks. On-site amenities may include pools, gymnasiums, clubhouses, restaurants, and biking and horseback riding trails.

No trip would be complete without a tour of the Galapagos Islands, where Darwin observed what would become a theory that shook the scientific and theological world.



New Zealand

Largely unknown to many international tourists until the 1990s, New Zealand is now being discovered by those eager to take in its breathtaking rugged beauty, untamed adventure activities and contemporary, cosmopolitan cities.

The North Island of New Zealand is best known for sightseeing and recreation options, including—but certainly not limited to—surfing, skiing and snowboarding, wilderness hiking, white-water rafting, bungee-jumping and its equally thrilling social, dining and cultural scenes. And it's all so close one can actually go from skiing to surfing to playing golf—all within a three-hour drive.

Even further off the beaten path, the South Island is a magnificent landscape of craggy coastlines, primeval forests, snow-capped mountains and glacier-fed lakes. World-renowned wineries dot the island, also the gateway to the Fjordland National Park. Whale-watching excursions can get you up close and personal to one of the world's most incredible animals, the Giant Sperm Whale.

A place of dramatic, unspoiled natural scenery, New Zealand has certainly earned the title of "ecotourist's dream."



The Italian Coastline



Synonymous with romance and hospitality, culture and cuisine, architecture and ancient history, Italy is one of the most sought-after destinations on any traveler's list.

Mainland Italy is a peninsula with approximately one thousand miles of coastline, surrounded by islands of various sizes and descriptions. When one speaks of the Italian coast, he could be singing the praises of the eastern part of the country along the Adriatic Sea... or the Italian Riviera on the Ligurian... or perhaps Naples and the Amalfi Coast in the southwest... or the islands of Sicily, Sardinia or Capri... or even the capital of Rome, centrally located along the Tyrrhenian Sea.

Vast and varied, coastal Italy is visually stunning, with mountains that soar from the sea, olive groves, vineyards and garden terraces that overlook the Mediterranean, ancient ruins and priceless masterpieces that have been preserved and displayed for all generations, and dozens upon dozens of other sensory pleasures.

Customs, attitudes and even Italy's famous cuisine often vary among its 20 different regions, all of which makes travel here a fabulous new adventure every day. 🌸

