

UNITED

# HEMISPHERES

THREE PERFECT DAYS:  
**GENEVA**

THE WORLD'S  
BEST BOUTIQUES


THE USNS *COMFORT*  
ON A MISSION  
OF MERCY IN HAITI

PLUS:

TWYLA THARP,  
MERLE HAGGARD &  
CABLE VIRTUOSO  
DAVID SIMON

APRIL 2010

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A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER 

# SEVERAL HOURS AFTER

you've nodded appreciatively at the umpteenth ancient site, not long after the 27th pit stop for postcards and bottled

water, a curious longing strikes you. Your feet are aching and your neck is still out of joint from those fluffy hotel pillows when you spot an alleyway that looks...interesting. You make the turn.

Suddenly, in a little out-of-the-way shop, your eye alights on something improbable glinting in a dusty corner, and a jolt of desire hits you. There it is, the vintage toreador's cape, the jaunty taxidermied peacock, the bespoke brass doorstop in the shape of a dragonfly that will be arduous to carry and even more arduous to fit into your overhead bin.

*Oh yes, you think, it will be mine.*

Thousands of miles from home, there is the familiar pressure to rush across the piazza and face the next museum tour on your itinerary. But years later, when the exhibits and the architectural wonders are long forgotten, it's that peculiar totem, carefully wrapped and taped and carried home in spite of it all, that you will relish. Here's where to find it. ■—SARAH HORNE



## KAPALI ÇARŞI (GRAND BAZAAR)

Standing in the shadow of the Nuruosmaniye Mosque, this massive covered market has about 4,000 stalls, organized into sections based on wares—so if all you want is a Turkish rug, stick to the rug area. But we recommend you take a spin through the rest; the elaborate arched ceilings dating back to the 1460s, when the market was built, are themselves worth the trip. And with vendors selling everything from spices and tea to fine jewelry and copperware, you'll probably pick up a trinket or two more than you've planned on. But that's fine, because you'll have haggled brilliantly (to learn how, see page 78). [grandbazaaristanbul.org](http://grandbazaaristanbul.org)



7A

## OCTIUM JEWELRY

Kuwait may not have the same reputation as Dubai for Middle Eastern luxury shopping, but it should. Behold Octium, a delightful jewelry shop designed by Jaime Hayón to look like something out of a dream sequence in *Mad Men*, with vertical purple podiums and mod display cases exhibiting the finest of fine gems. You'll find baubles by Ivanka Trump, Hannah Martin and Pippa Small here, as well as the exclusive Octium Collection.

[octiumjewelry.com](http://octiumjewelry.com)







London



Chicago

## MERZ APOTHECARY

Merz Apothecary probably looks much the way it did when it was first opened by Swiss immigrant Peter Merz in 1875—despite a move to its larger flagship location on North Lincoln Avenue in 1982. The handcarved wood façade and antique medicine jars are complemented by one-on-one attention from pharmacists with extensive knowledge of homeopathic and herbal remedies—another homey holdover from Merz's time. The store also stocks every natural cosmetic one could hope for, and a selection of personal care lines rarely found stateside.

[merzapotheary.com](http://merzapotheary.com)

## DOVER STREET MARKET

Something of a high-fashion flea market, Dover Street Market is laid out over six floors in the Mayfair neighborhood. The Commes des Garçons brainchild carries lines by the coolest designers you've never heard of alongside pieces by well-known couturiers such as Givenchy, Azzedine Alaïa and Proenza Schouler. Commes des Garçons also offers collections exclusive to the shop. Director Rei Kawakubo describes her goal as creating an "atmosphere of beautiful chaos," and we think that's the best kind.

[doverstreetmarket.com](http://doverstreetmarket.com)



San Francisco

## McSWEENEY'S PIRATE STORE

Do you really need a tin of mermaid repellent or a Belly of Whale Escape Kit? Probably not. But you can get them here, along with more giftable wares, such as a limited-edition print by photographer Sven Wiederholt or a spyglass. Perhaps most important, the store is part of 826 Valencia, an organization cofounded by author Dave Eggers that tutors children in writing. So how do pirates fit in? That, my friend, is a question only a landlubber would ask. [826valencia.org](http://826valencia.org)

## BIG DEAL

FIVE STEPS TO HAGGLING LIKE AN OLD HAND

**1 DECIDE WHAT YOU WANT TO PAY.** OFTEN,

MULTIPLE FLEA MARKET OR BAZAAR VENDORS WILL HAVE THE SAME ITEMS FOR SALE, WHICH MAKES COMPARISON SHOPPING EASY.

**2 ALWAYS ASK THE PRICE.** EVEN IF AN ITEM IS MARKED,

THE SALESPERSON MAY OFFER YOU A DEAL OFF THE BAT.

**3 MAKE A COUNTEROFFER.** THIS SHOULD BE LESS

THAN THE AMOUNT YOU SETTLED ON IN STEP ONE, AND CAN BE AS LOW AS HALF THE ASKING PRICE. THE SALESPERSON WILL TYPICALLY RESPOND WITH A SIGNIFICANTLY HIGHER NUMBER.

**4 WALK AWAY... SLOWLY.**

INSTEAD OF MAKING ANOTHER COUNTEROFFER, JUST POLITELY THANK THEM AND MOVE ON. THE SALESPERSON IS ALMOST GUARANTEED TO OFFER YOU A LOWER PRICE.

**5 MAKE A DECISION YOU CAN LIVE WITH.**

SOMETIMES THAT MEANS LEAVING EMPTY-HANDED; SOMETIMES IT MEANS PAYING MORE THAN YOU'D HOPED TO FOR AN OBJECT YOU JUST CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT. BUT SO WHAT? YOU'RE WORTH IT.

