

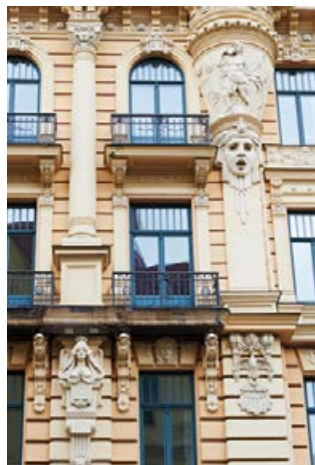
Where we're headed this month...

1

VERSAILLES

Because every September, the Academy of Equestrian Arts reopens for the fall season with live performances unlike anything we've ever seen. This autumn, they're putting on *La Voie de l'Écuyer*, a show at the palace's royal stables that incorporates choreography, fencing, and the familiar strains of Bach. (The riders occasionally dismount to do a dervish routine, pictured here.) Somehow, the combination works—thanks to the direction of legendary horse trainer Bartabas (just Bartabas), founder of the Théâtre Equestre Zingaro, whose shows have been packing in the French crowds for more than a quarter of a century.





3

RIGA, LATVIA ▲

Because it has all of the cosmopolitan dynamism and charm of cities like Paris and Barcelona—without the crowds or attitude. Hit the Jugendstil district, home to about 800 brilliantly preserved Art Nouveau buildings (pictured here), and don't miss the National Library, by Latvian-American architect Gunnar Birkerts. The building—which resembles a glass-and-steel mountain ridge along the city's Daugava River—opened last year.

2

SINGAPORE

Because the sleepy Telok Ayer neighborhood in the city's Chinatown has become a dining hot spot on account of local boy turned international hotelier and restaurateur Loh Lik Peng (his Town Hall Hotel, in London, helped put Portuguese chef Nuno Mendes—now at the Chiltern Firehouse—on the map). In early 2013, Peng opened the Market Grill, an instantly packed surf-and-turf spot; in February of this year, he followed up with the small but sophisticated Sorrel; and then he debuted the barbecue joint Meat Smith. Two streets, three restaurants, and countless happy diners in a city notorious for its food snobbery.



4

◀ TEL AVIV

Because the so-called Miami of the Middle East can finally live up to its moniker now that the rooftop infinity pool opened at the new 50-room Norman Hotel.



5

◀ POMPEII

Because after years of neglect (and with UNESCO funding under threat), the Villa of the Mysteries—site of the city's best-preserved frescoes—has finally been restored.

6

SEDONA

Because the Japanese practice of *Shinrin-yoku*, or “forest bathing”—basically a stress-reducing walk in the woods—has made its way stateside to the luxury resort L'Auberge de Sedona. Find your center among the sycamore trees along Oak Creek, and then enjoy a bottle (or two) from L'Auberge's impressive wine cellar.