

INSIDER
GUIDE

50 BEST NEW U.S. RESTAURANTS

TRAVEL + LEISURE

WHERE TO
GET AWAY
FROM IT ALL!

FREQUENT-FLIER SECRETS
HOW TO MAX YOUR MILES

18 GREAT GADGETS
THAT WILL CHANGE THE WAY YOU TRAVEL

FRANCE
ITALY
COSTA RICA
ALASKA
ISTANBUL
ENGLAND
INDIA

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FOOD: PASS THE PORK

Best known for the perennially packed Spotted Pig, and more recently the seafood restaurant John Dory, chef April Bloomfield has set her sights on a third New York City venture: the 168-seat gastropub **Breslin** (16 W. 29th St.; 646/214-5788; dinner for two \$64), debuting next month. Housed on the ground floor of the new Ace Hotel and designed by New York-based architects Roman & Williams, the dining room is reminiscent of an early-20th-century saloon, with a vintage mahogany bar and green leather banquettes. Bloomfield's menu is all about the pig—from snout to tail. Her favorite dish? "The pork terrine. What more could you want?"

—NATHALIE JORDI

Chef April Bloomfield at New York's Spotted Pig.



The Seven Seas Resort, in Thailand.

RESORTS: SOUTHEAST ASIA

A NEW CROP OF AFFORDABLE BOUTIQUE HOTELS IS COMING TO SOME OF Southeast Asia's less traveled shores. Just 50 miles east of Singapore is **Nikoi Island** (65/9635-1950; nikoi.com; beach houses from \$190), a 37-acre private isle off the coast of Bintan fringed by powdery white-sand beaches. Its 10 Indonesian-inspired bungalows are constructed from driftwood and outfitted with built-in daybeds, stone-floored bathrooms, and thatch roofs. On Siargao Island, in the southeast corner of the Philippines, two Paris transplants recently opened **Kalinaw Resort** (General Luna, Siargao Island; 63/921-320-0442; kalinawresort.com; villas from \$130), a haven for surfers and Manila urbanites. The property's five airy beachfront cottages have dark *do yok-doyok*—wood floors and small balconies with rattan hammocks. Not far from the coast of Malaysian Borneo you'll find **Bunga Raya Island Resort** (Polish Bay, Pulau Gaya; 60-88/380-390; bungarayaresort.com; doubles from \$600, including meals and speedboat transfers), a secluded jungle hideaway that includes 56 timbered villas—some with private plunge pools—set in a lush rain forest. The 32 villas at Thailand's **Seven Seas Resort** (221 Moo 2 Koh Kradan; 66-75/2033-8990; sevenseasresorts.com; villas from \$188), a two-hour drive from Krabi, have open-air rain showers and terraces, many of which look out over the Andaman Sea. —JENNIFER CHEN

TOUR: LIGHTS OUT

On July 22, veteran travel outfitter **Remote Lands** (remotelands.com; \$2,000 per person, double, July 20-23) will bring 20 guests, along with a Chinese astronomer and astrologer, to the peak of the 10,000-foot-tall Mount Emei, near Chengdu, China. The occasion? To watch the 21st century's longest total eclipse of the sun—six minutes and 39 seconds. Now that's time well spent. —CATESBY HOLMES



Illustrated by RYAN HESHKA

