

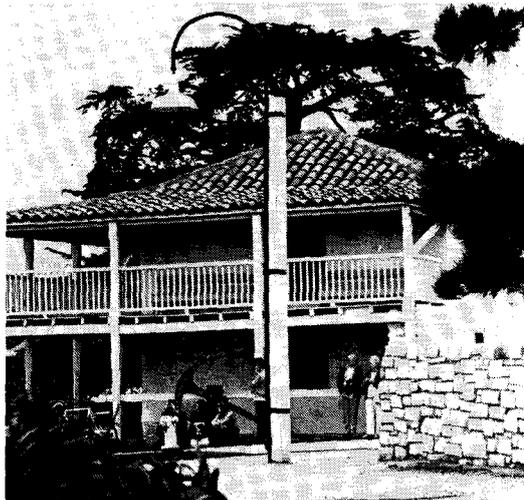
# Seeing the World on Nothing a Day

Getting there may be half the fun, but staying there is half the expense. Here is a hatful of ways to sight-see without opening your billfold (hardly).

by Dena Kaye

**O**n the Farm at Farmers Market in Los Angeles—20-acre ranch market on the corner of Fairfax and Third avenues, has alleyways lined by individual stores stocked with silks from the Orient, handmade baskets from Mexico, pets, garden furniture; 26 restaurants, some with dining patios; 10 stalls displaying fresh vegetables and fruits (mangoes and papayas from the South Seas, sugar cane from Hawaii); 11 meat markets, fancy groceries, and bakers and candymakers—chocolate-covered cherries made by hand while you watch.

**In History's Footsteps in Monterey, Calif.**—Follow the Spanish-colonial path of history in this city on the Pacific coast, once the capital of Mexico's Pacific empire, and the place where Father Serra (father of California's mission system) established the Carmel Mission. The path of history is marked by an orange-red line painted down the center of the streets throughout town that leads to every old house of distinction. Each is marked by



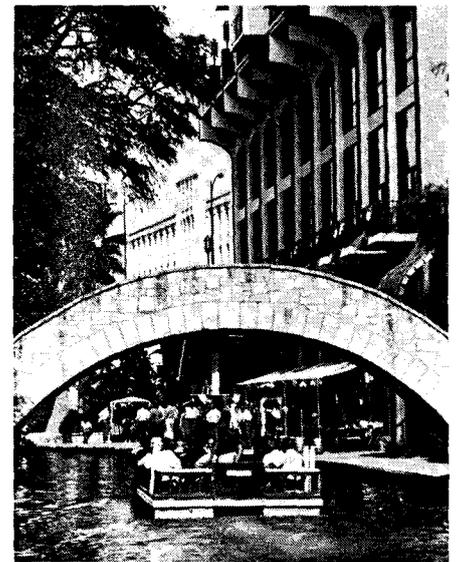
Customs House, Monterey—Following the colored line through colonial history.

a plaque explaining architecture and history. Included: Robert Louis Stevenson's house, sporting his furniture and personal belongings; the First Theater, site of the presentation of the first melodrama in California, in the 1840s; the Old Customs House, where the American flag unfurled with the defeat of Mexico by the United States in 1846; Larkin House; and the Old Monterey Jail.

**High-Rolling in Las Vegas**—Watch the gamblers play in any hotel lobby (in Europe many casinos charge), or take a course in chance at the Mint, a downtown hotel. The casino school includes a 20-minute color movie, a lecture about the games, and instruction in baccarat. (From 1 to 5 daily; Friday, Saturday, and Sunday 11 to 3.) The Behind-the Scenes Tour (daily 11 to 6:30) looks in on the money-counting room and explains gambling techniques from the Eye in the Sky, the name for the floor above the casino, where students peer through a glass (it's a mirror on the other side) to see the action in the casino.

**The Seine of San Antonio**—Stroll along the walkways (pedestrians only) on either side of the San Antonio River. The waterway curves through the downtown area and is lined with subtropical flowers and trees, restaurants (choose from tamales, quiche, wursts, pizzas), boutiques, art galleries, and nightclubs. Arched bridges connect the two river banks. Special riverside events: The Fiesta Week in April features King's River Parade, a one-night procession of decorated floats, and Nights in Old San Antonio in La Villita, festivities in a restored Mexican village with arts-and-crafts shops, and music throughout, from oompah to Spanish guitar. There is folkloric dancing during Fiesta de Noche del Rio four times a week during the summer at the Arneson River Theater.

**Walk on the Moon in Idaho**—The an-



San Antonio River—Subtropical flora, wursts, pizzas, quiche, and tamales.

cient lava flows at Craters of the Moon National Monument, a 53,545-acre preserve 88 miles from Idaho Falls, resemble a moonscape. (It was a locale chosen for preflight training by astronauts.) Caves can be explored with aid of a miner's hat, lamp, and knee pads furnished by the park. Hikers, without benefit of miners' hats, can tramp in the park's wilderness area.

**Peacepipe Quarries in Pipestone, Minn.**—Quarries at Pipestone National Monument are still worked for stone pipes favored by the Indians for ceremonial custom. Throughout the summer there are demonstrations of crafts—basket and pottery ware, rug-weaving, pipe-making—and ceremonial dances. There is a museum and exhibition gallery.

**French Quarter in New Orleans**—Explore the Vieux Carré, the original French section, first popularized by the Creole elite in the 1830s and 1840s. There are narrow streets, hidden courtyards, cast-iron grillwork on the galleries (balconies). A walk through the quarter could include a look at Jackson Square and the Cathedral of St. Louis (and the cathedral's garden, where rich men dueled over favorite ladies); antique shops on Royal Street; Pirate's Alley, now an outdoor picture gallery; the sprawling French produce market; Madame John's Legacy, a plantation house. Jazz played at Preservation Hall and the clubs on Bourbon Street carries out into the streets, along with the scent of Creole cuisine from Antoine's, Galatoire's, Brennan's, and Tujacque's.

**Historic Savannah**—Southern belle of



*Vieux Carré, New Orleans—The heady scent of Creole cuisine, the sound of jazz.*

seaport towns. This is America's largest national historic district, an area covering 2.2 square miles of the original city with brick and cobblestone streets, 100-plus-year-old houses (with admission charges), and squares. Don't miss Factors' Walk Military Museum in the old cotton warehouse; Pirate's House, a restored inn (with relics), for rum and seafood; the riverfront area with its series of craft shops—leather, iron work, pottery. The Visitors Bureau or Historic Savannah Foundation provides maps and explanations for a two-hour, drive-yourself tour.

**Begin the Bicentennial in Boston**—Boston 200, the city's official Bicentennial organization, begins a two-year schedule of events on Patriot's Day, April 19, 1975. The history of Boston will be unfolded through a network of exhibits (that is, multimedia presentations, library programs, museum events); tours of historic sites; commemorations (the Boston Tea Party, Paul Revere's Ride); forums and ethnic neighborhood festivals; marker systems, walking trails patterned after the Freedom Trail, a self-guided tour of old Boston (indicated by a red brick walkway down the sidewalk). New trails will trace Boston's history with special reference to blacks, medicine, architecture, and its women.

**No Cost in the Capital**—Washington, D.C., offers anyone interested in history, government, and the heritage of the nation free tours of the Capitol; the White House; the National Gallery; the F.B.I.; all buildings of the Smithsonian Institution (exhibits include the Hope Diamond,

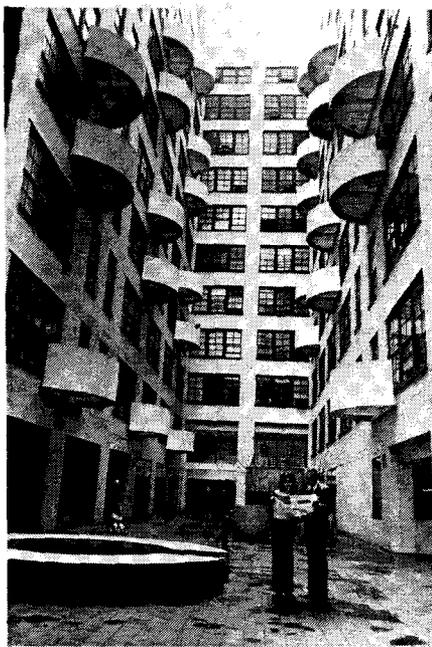
all space capsules, *The Spirit of St. Louis*); the Supreme Court; the Lincoln and Jefferson memorials; the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts; the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden (newest in town); cherry trees when in blossom; the Bureau of Printing and Engraving, where paper money is made. No free samples.

**New York for Nothing**—Self-guided walking tours through the city's historic neighborhoods, i.e., Chelsea on the West Side between Fourteenth and Thirty-fourth streets and Seventh Avenue and the Hudson River, with nineteenth-century townhouses, offbeat antique shops; Soho, just below Greenwich Village and Houston Street, New York's newest neighborhood, an artists' colony with galleries, craft shops, and restaurants (Convention and Visitors Bureau provides information); the American In-

York and American Stock Exchanges, the Federal Reserve Bank (where gold bricks are kept), and the United Nations.

**A Royal Rehearsal in Ottawa**—The Royal Canadian Mounted Police practice the famous Musical Ride Show—movements based on early British Cavalry drills that include the Bridal Arch, the Star, and the Cloverleaf—Monday to Friday, year-round, at the indoor and outdoor practice area at the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Building in Ottawa. Stable and tack room are also open to visitors.

**Marketing in Oaxaca, Mexico**—The daily market is most colorful on Saturday (people arrive late Friday night with burros carrying their wares): a composite of turbaned hill girls in white dresses with red belts, Yalalag women in white shifts with knots of colored thread at chest and back, and girls wearing caps made from



*New Greenwich Village—Self-guided walks in Gotham's neighborhoods.*

dian Museum; the Brooklyn Museum, famous for its Egyptian collection and ornamental sculpture from New York's buildings; the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the American Museum of Natural History—fee: a donation (even a penny). In midsummer: the New York Philharmonic and Metropolitan Opera concerts in Sheep's Meadow in Central Park, Cunningham Park in Queens, Prospect Park in Brooklyn, Van Cortlandt Park in the Bronx, the Shakespeare Festival in Central Park's Delacorte Theater. There are tours of the New



*Mexican National Tourist Council  
Oaxaca Shopper—Turbaned hill girls and others with caps of green onions.*

bunches of green onions. Stalls display specialties of Oaxaca—serapes, rebozos, pottery, long mesh bags, thick-soled pointed sandals, and the usual masses of flowers, spices, and vegetables seen in other Mexican markets.

**African Voodoo and Dance in Bahia**—Ladeira do Pelourinho, a quarter in the old part of Salvador, Brazil, is the center for the African cult of candomblé, a Bahian version of voodoo, and capoeira, the African art that is a combination of dance, fight, and game. Capoeira performances are given on Saturday morn-



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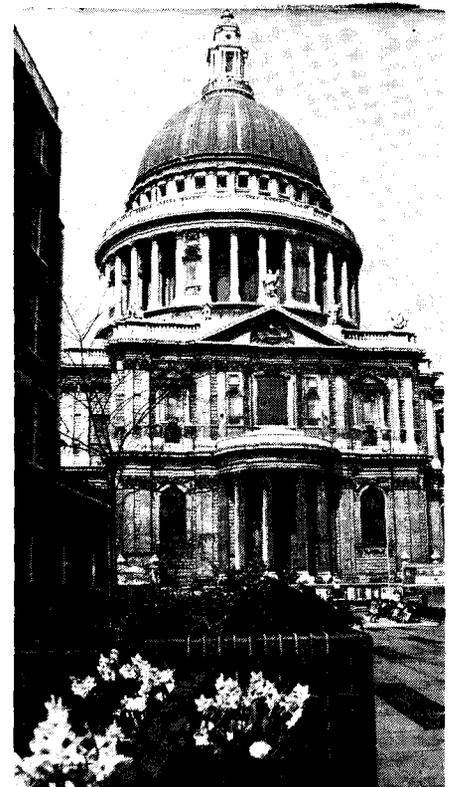
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ings in front of the Mercado Modelo. Candomblé rituals unfold in special grounds called *terreiros* (ask hotel for exact location).

**Picnic Under a Waterfall in Guadeloupe, West Indies**—Take a picnic lunch (prepared by the hotel or bought in the shops in Ste. Marie on the Basse-Terre side of the island), and drive along the Allée Dumanoir, a straight road edged with royal palms, to the town of Capesterre. Pass through the town, and make a right turn on Ruthiers Road. Follow it to a dead end, and park car. A half-hour's walk down a narrow path, through the overgrown forest, flowers, banana and bamboo trees, leads to the base of the waterfall (800-foot cascade) called Chutes du Carbet. Two big pools for swimming—thermal on the left, cool on the right. Bamboo hut for changing clothes.

**Sherlock Holmes's London**—Visit the Sherlock Holmes Pub (Northumberland Street, WC 2). The lower floor is filled with mementos of his career and a rendering of his fictitious room on Baker Street. Then stop at Charing Cross Station, the departure point for trains to his literary adventures, and Baker Street, where "he lived" (probably at number 111); trace Holmes's and Watson's walk down Baker to Oxford Street to Regent Street, where they found a picture of the lady who was being blackmailed by Charles August Milverton; inspect Scotland Yard, home of Inspector Lestrade. Other Holmes's haunts: Hyde Park, Hampstead Heath, the British Museum. Or just walk through London on a misty night.

**A Weekend in Paris**—Be a *flâneur*, the French word for easygoing stroller, and take in the Marais, one of the city's oldest settlements. In the seventeenth century the Place des Vosges was the quarter's focal point (in summer the mansions and churches become theaters and concert halls). Go to organ-music recitals in the churches of Notre Dame, St. Sulpice, and the Madeleine; the marionette theater in the Tuileries Garden; a picnic in the Bois de Boulogne; the colorful food markets (and the restaurants) on the rue Mouffetard on the Left Bank or Montmartre's market on the rue Lepic, a steep street lined with shops—bakers, butchers, tailors—particularly popular with bargain-conscious Parisians; the Marché aux Puces, or Flea Market, an overflowing jumble of 2,000 stalls stuffed with antiques, old clothes, old jewelry, especially art-deco style;



British Tourist Authority  
 St. Paul's London—Also Portobello Road, Petticoat Lane, and the Abbey.

Deux Magots café, once the hangout of Hemingway and Stein, or that newer outpost, Le Drugstore on Boulevard St. Germain; free admission on Sundays at the Louvre (*Winged Victory, Venus de Milo, Mona Lisa*); the Victor Hugo Museum, his house with memorabilia; the Place du Vert-Galant with its guitar players and lovers (named after Henry IV's nickname, meaning "gay old blade") under the Pont Neuf on the Seine; the Eiffel Tower viewed at dusk from the fountains at Place Trocadero.

**London on Very Little**—See the changing of the guard at Buckingham Palace; the 900 years of British history at Westminster Abbey; St. Paul's Cathedral (the largest church in the city, built by Sir Christopher Wren); Parliament in session (or Speaker's Corner at Hyde Park Corner for speeches by anyone with an opinion on anything); the law courts (the judges still wear white wigs); the British Museum, famous for the Elgin Marbles, the Rosetta Stone, the Magna Carta; the Tate Museum (British pre-1900 paintings as well as modernists); the Victoria and Albert Museum for fine and applied arts, paintings and drawings by Constable, English miniatures, the Print Room; auctions at Sotheby and Company; markets: trendy Portobello Road (best time: Saturday mid-morning) for antiques and junk, fruits and vegetables; Petticoat Lane (on Sunday A.M.), a collection of stalls in London's East End for

practically anything—underwear to jellied eels.

**Everyman's Right in Sweden**—Based on the right to cross another man's land from the days when few roads existed and shortcuts were important, this practice allows: camping for one night on private property without the owner's permission; using (your own) rowboats, canoes, and sailboats on private waters; picking berries, flowers, and mushrooms; using reasonable quantities of fresh water from wells. Dogs are allowed, but from March to September they must be on a leash.

**Entertainment on the House in Copenhagen**—Listen to afternoon concerts, chamber music, singing recitals, at the Royal Academy of Art, July 1 to 19; concerts in the church of Christiansborg Castle, a mini St. Peter's, where the royal family still has celebrations, twice weekly at 8 P.M. in July and August; jazz concerts in the city's many squares (posters around town give the details); theater productions and music concerts (some children's programs) in Grayfriar's Square all summer long.

**Greatest Show on Earth in Marrakesh**—A daily matinee (three until sundown) unfolds in the Square called the Djemma el f'na and features a cast of thousands: tumblers, snake charmers, storytellers, animal acts. Black dancers from the Sudan, dressed in white, leap to the beat of oversize metal castanets; Berber musicians play makeshift fiddles. A trained baboon sits and watches (so do tourists) while smoke from the roasting peanuts in the carts drifts over the crowds.

**Walking in Jerusalem's Old City**—Follow David Street through the bazaars filled with caftans, filigree jewelry, engraved copperware, Byzantine oil lamps. Stop at the Wailing Wall. To the right of the wall, stairs lead into the ancient Temple Mount, where El Aska Mosque and the Dome of the Rock stand. Continue to Saint Stephen's Gate and the Church of Saint Anne, then to the Via Dolorosa and its stations of the Cross. The last five lie within the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.

**Bridging Two Continents**—Take a walk from Europe to Asia on the Bosphorus Bridge in Istanbul, spanning the waterway that joins the Black Sea to the Aegean and separates two continents. On the right: Istanbul's skyline. Return to Europe by boat; the ferries from Uskudar to Galata Bridge (the world's oldest pontoon bridge still in use) cost only a dime.

**Window-Shopping Along Some Chic Streets**—Fifth Avenue, N.Y.—Saks Fifth Avenue, Tiffany, Cartier, Rockefeller Center, Rizzoli, Van Cleef & Arpels; Strøget, Copenhagen's walking street—Birgir Christensen (furs), Georg Jensen (silver), Illums Bolighus (home furnishings); New Bond Street, London—Asprey (handmade jewelry, antiques), Sotheby, Savory & Moore (oldest chemists in London); rue du Faubourg St. Honoré, Paris—Hermès, Jourdan, Lanvin, Yves St. Laurent, Roget & Gallet, Cardin; via Condotti, Rome—Gucci, Cucci (silks & shirts), Venini (glass), Ferragamo (shoes), Bulgari.

**Store-Browser's Guide**—Wander through Neiman-Marcus, Dallas (main store)—famous for the original and the expensive, his and her items (camels and submarines), rare collection of Chinese robes, fortnightly celebrations saluting the art and fashion of different countries; Gumps, San Francisco—celebrated for *objets d'art*, orientalia, china, glass, jade, and silver; Bloomingdale's, New York—model rooms for interior design, fine-foods department, trendy boutiques; Galeries Lafayette, Paris—everyday, non-

exotic items, a glimpse into French household habits, multilingual guides available, no purchase necessary; Biba, London—boutique-turned-department-store, decor as important as merchandise, art-deco style, mirrored walls, stained woodwork, marble floors, and a two-acre roof garden; Harrods, London—Europe's largest department store, over 200 sections from a zoo to a food market to fashion, services including arranging funerals and tuning pianos. □



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## The Persistence of Trivia

One of the prices you pay, if you are a nut about facts, is that practically no morsel of information fails to titillate you. *Everything* becomes fascinating; you turn slave to the peculiar, the diverse, the trivial. Consider these off-beat nuggets, stored in my memory bank, from which I cannot evict them:

- (1) In Burma there are deer that bark. (Whether they bark in Burmese, I do not know. The wise men at the zoo have not been of the slightest help to me on this; I suspect they have a coyote who howls in Esperanto.)
- (2) Whenever Lord Palmerston visited Queen Victoria for a weekend, at Windsor or Balmoral, all the royal ladies-in-waiting locked and double-bolted their doors, every night—so raunchy and indiscriminate was Palmerston's concupiscence.
- (3) In Africa, when the natives tell their young the story of Hänsel and Gretel, the witch's house is not made of cake but of—salt; for salt is much more highly prized in Africa than cake ever was. As for dear little Snow White, in countries in which the inhabitants have never seen snow, she is called "Flower White." Who can blame them?
- (4) Lizards copulate very fast; but snakes do their tango in slow, entwined, preliminary mazurkas that last for *hours*.
- (5) The Culinary Scene:
  - (a) The croissant was first baked in Austria, not France. It is shaped like a crescent to express the Viennese hatred of the Turks, who were laying siege to the capital. Since the Viennese could not beat their oppressors, they (symbolically) ate them.
  - (b) Until recently pizzas were as alien to Italy as baseball. Today, of course, pizzas abound in Rome; baseball does not.
  - (c) There are no turkeys in Turkey. The name for that gobbler came from its resemblance to the guinea hen—which early explorers to America had seen in Eu-

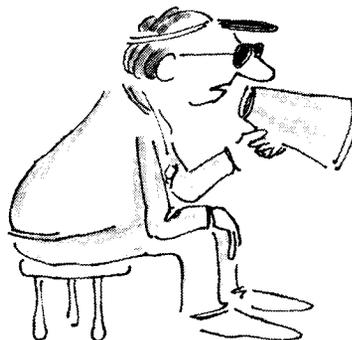
rope and knew to be indigenous to Turkey.

- (d) Spaniards have never heard of "Spanish rice."
  - (e) English muffins were invented in America.
  - (f) Vichyssoise was invented in New York, by the chef at the old Ritz-Carlton.
  - (g) There is no Danish pastry in Denmark; the Danes call it "Vienna bread."
- (6) Quails are both monogamous and polygamous. (Now *there's* something for women's lib.) The connubial habits of the quail, a creature I have heretofore eaten without appropriate respect, bring to mind (at least to my mind) one supernatural experience of William James's. That great psychologist kept a pad of paper on his night table, so that no idea spawned in the night would go unrecorded. One night, during a glowing dream, James felt the sensation of having hit upon one of the greatest insights ever vouchsafed to man. James drowsily scribbled the revelation on his pad. The next morning he saw what it was he had preserved for immortality:

Higamous, hogamous,  
Woman's monogamous;  
Hogamous, higamous,  
Man is polygamous.

I do not even quail in telling you so.

- (7) Natives of the Junag tribe, in Orissa, India, sleep in the open, *underneath* their raised, thatched, comfortable houses. The houses, on stilts or pilings, are occupied by the natives'



"Stroke, stroke . . ."

goats (which, I suspect, are both spoiled and smug).

- (8) The Colossus of Rhodes, one of the ancients' Seven Wonders of the World, was not simply a colossus. It was a statue of Helios, the Sun God.
  - (9) Among the delicious names taken by, or given to, minor political parties in the United States (apart from Mugwumps and Bull Moose) are these doozies: Quids, Locofocos. Barnburners, Coodies, Hunkies. Bucktails. (*Please* don't write to ask me to identify them; just use the indexes of half a dozen books on American history.)
  - (10) The technical name for a fear of the number 13 (real neurotic *fear*, not run-of-the-mill superstition, avoidance, or uneasiness) is "triskaidekaphobia." That's from the Greek: *treis* ("three"), *kai* ("and"), *deka* ("10"), *phobia* ("fear"). This bores me.
  - (11) The Pileated Tinamou, a bird found in picturesque Panama, sings every three hours—*every* three hours, day and night. (Its national anthem must be "Of Thee I Sing.")
  - (12) One of the most important men and forces in all history is Johann Gensfleisch. If you are puzzled (as you should be), let me unpuzzle you. Johann Gensfleisch invented printing, i.e., movable type. His father's name was Gensfleisch, which means "gooseflesh"; so he took his mother's name, which was Gutenberg. Who can blame him? How would you like to go through life being hailed, "Hi, there, Goose pimple"?
- Another name-changer, of course, was Hitler—whose patronymic was Schicklgruber. Among the meanings of *Grube* is "a pit, hole—or grave." Never was a biped monster more aptly named. □