



# Indagare

**Best of Summer Family Travel**

Plus: The Loire Valley, Bolivia, Florence and Peru

# My Family's Travel Evolution

Indagare's founder, Melissa Biggs Bradley, reflects on how family travel is a meaningful way of transforming perspectives.

One of the many changes that comes from having a child in college—my daughter is a freshman this year—is that we no longer have two weeks of spring break to travel together as a family. Knowing that this day would come, my husband and I were diligent about planning family trips as soon as our kids were old enough to endure long flights. We took them to Australia, Africa, South America and Asia to expose them to different cultures, landscapes and people. But we also made a point of exploring America, with road trips in California and Montana and weekends in Washington, D.C.; Nashville; New Orleans; Charleston; and Miami. It is a cliché to say that the years pass quickly, and you have to make the most of them, but they do, and you must. The value of “show, don't tell” as it relates to the world has been made clear to me both by my own memories of discovering foreign places as a child and their impact on my life choices, and by seeing how travel has affected my children's perspectives.

On the second day of our trip to India two years ago, my daughter, then 16, declared that she wanted to go home. She felt deeply uncomfortable with the way some men in the market leered at her. She was undone by the children begging outside our palace hotel. India's extremes of beauty and desperation are staggering. The complexity and injustices of life are often

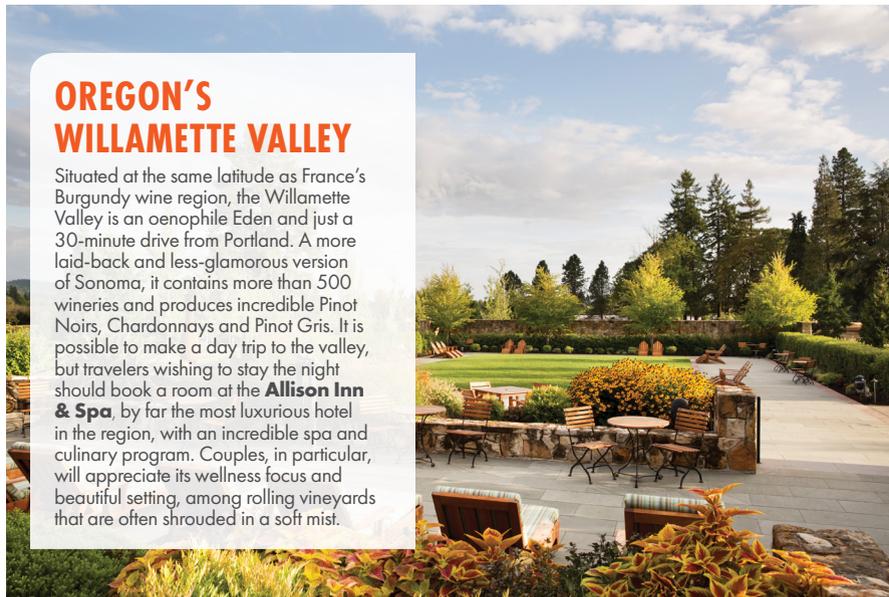
laid bare in one crystalline moment. Outside the palaces, filled with portraits of royals bedecked in diamonds and jewels, are streams of disfigured beggars, some injured for their trade by their own parents, as well as Jain monks who, barefoot and in rags, embody pure spirituality.

India's in-your-face contrasts inspired us to talk about suffering, privilege, the accidents of birth, religion, education and social responsibility. Two days before we returned home, my daughter came into my hotel room, flopped on the foot of my bed and announced that this had been the best trip she could have taken during her junior year of high school. Unlike most abrupt teenage reversals, this one was welcome, not exasperating.

“At school we complain about taking the SATs and applying to college and the stress of it,” she said. “But after being here and knowing that almost half the women in India don't ever get to learn to read, I realize how much we take for granted.” Her epiphany didn't spare us from college anxiety or application tension, but she underwent a perceptual shift that could only have been produced by her experiencing the wideness of the world. As a parent, I am glad that is a gift that will stay with her forever.

*Melissa Biggs Bradley*





## OREGON'S WILLAMETTE VALLEY

Situated at the same latitude as France's Burgundy wine region, the Willamette Valley is an oenophile Eden and just a 30-minute drive from Portland. A more laid-back and less-glamorous version of Sonoma, it contains more than 500 wineries and produces incredible Pinot Noirs, Chardonnays and Pinot Gris. It is possible to make a day trip to the valley, but travelers wishing to stay the night should book a room at the **Allison Inn & Spa**, by far the most luxurious hotel in the region, with an incredible spa and culinary program. Couples, in particular, will appreciate its wellness focus and beautiful setting, among rolling vineyards that are often shrouded in a soft mist.



creamy cheddar and, for dessert, foie gras profiteroles.

### DAY 3 Sights and Spirits

Go for a hike in **Forest Park**, which has more than 5,000 acres of woodland and is located 10 minutes by car from downtown. One of the most popular routes is a five-mile loop that passes **Pittock Mansion** and offers beautiful views of the Willamette River.

Grab a quick breakfast or lunch at **Maurice**, which serves bistro fare in-

spired by Norway. Drinks aficionados might want to take a **Distillery Tour** of the city's southeast area, formerly a warehouse district, with stops at **House Spirits**, known for its Aviation Gin, and **New Deal Distillery**, which produces interesting vodkas infused with such ingredients as cacao nibs. The more abstemious will find equally delicious teas at **Smith Teemaker**. Before going home, stop at **Salt + Straw** for one of its inventive ice cream flavors (think Arbequina olive oil), which has locations throughout the city.

- North of West**  
203 SW 9th Ave.
- WM Goods**  
1136 SW Alder St.
- Woonwinkel**  
935 SW Washington St.
- Frances May**  
1003 SW Washington St.
- The Good Mod**  
1313 N Burnside St.
- Kiriko Made**  
325 NW Couch St.
- Paxton Gate**  
4204 N Mississippi Ave.
- Tanner Goods**  
4719 N Albina Ave.
- SPA**
- Knot Springs**  
33 NE 3rd Ave. #565



See additional shopping and dining recommendations at [Indagare.com](http://Indagare.com) and contact our team to book a trip. [bookings@indagare.com](mailto:bookings@indagare.com) | 212-988-2611

# Indagare on Family Travel

Indagare staffers reveal precious memories of summers spent with family, on great adventures and learning about new cultures.



When I was nine, I sailed from Hawaii to San Diego on the aircraft carrier my dad was stationed on. One night, they turned off all the lights, and I saw more stars than I'd ever seen before. I've been searching for night skies like that ever since.

— COLIN HEINRICH



When I was 16, I visited Israel for a month. I remember looking out over Jerusalem from an elevated point at dusk—I had never seen anything so enchanting before. It changed my whole perspective on life, and I haven't stopped traveling since.

— LAUREN PALEY



As a child, my father never read me fairytales or chapter books. Instead, he created stories while showing me photos in *National Geographic*. I listened with rapt attention, and knew early on that I wanted to see the world.

— SANDRA BECKER



I visited Alaska with my family when I was nine. I still remember our helicopter flight to the top of a glacier: the views, the roaring in my ears, the utter remoteness.

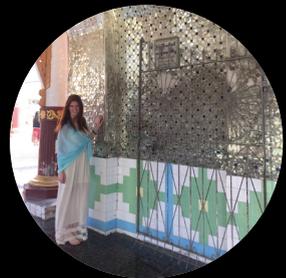
This is the first time I can remember thinking: "there's a whole world out there."

— ANGELA DENNY



My childhood summers were spent in New Hampshire, when days were filled with sailing and nights were spent square dancing. No matter where I travel, my fondest memories are of the times my family huddled around the campfire.

—BLAIR WEST



The moment I fell in love with travel was on a childhood service trip to Nicaragua. That experience taught me that you don't need a common language to connect with someone—oftentimes, all it takes is a smile and compassion.

— SARAH LEVINE

“Travel, in the younger sort, is  
part of education; in the elder,  
a part of experience.”

*~Francis Bacon*

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