

# trunk

The world is a fine place

## MOMENT OF REFLECTION

LOOKING BACK,  
MOVING FORWARD



OUR FAR-FLUNG CORRESPONDENTS  
**IN KASHMIR**  
TAKING THE MEASURE

**ACROSS ETHIOPIA**  
HELD UP AND ON THE ROAD

**RETURN TO ALEXANDRIA**  
AFTER THE REVOLUTION

\$6.50



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## the guides . hotel reviews

We've had them everywhere, but never as we did at The Willows—which is to say, in front of the hotel's own waterfall. [thewillowspalmsprings.com](http://thewillowspalmsprings.com)

### THE BETSY SOUTH BEACH

We love South Beach, but it's so hard getting the hotel quite right without decamping slightly north or west: We want something not too wild, not too corporate...and preferably no more than a single road crossing away from the ocean. The Betsy gets Goldilocks' mix exactly right. Perched on the northern end of Ocean Drive, it's part buzzy enough (if you're into that kind of thing); the mayhem stops at The Betsy's doors, though, and upstairs, you'll find 63 serene guestrooms, some with views of the ocean just across the sand. Even better, when the all-night party begins to wear, it's easy to hole up in The Betsy, thanks to a convivial first-floor bar, a rooftop wellness garden/lounge, and an on-premises BLT Steak. [thebetsyhotel.com](http://thebetsyhotel.com)

### HOTEL PALOMAR WASHINGTON, D.C.

Sometimes what you want in a hotel isn't wisteria and aromatherapy but a sleek, chic business hotel, where everything works and function is privileged over rose petals in the bathwater. These standards alone would be enough to endear us to Hotel Palomar, located roughly between Georgetown and Dupont Circle. That's before we saw the Motion Suite, a 500-square foot space with a king bed, DVD player, iPod dock—so far, so same-y, you're thinking—and a selection of gym equipment for our personal use. This is including, but not limited to, our own elliptical trainer, mats, and weights. Did we mention it comes actually in the room? Like a flat-screen TV, but a million times better? [hotelpalomar-dc.com](http://hotelpalomar-dc.com)

### CORINTHIA HOTEL LONDON

Only six months old, Corinthia Hotel's debut offering in London is notable for delivering that rarest of things in the



capital: space. The hotel suggests that at 45 square meters, its rooms are the city's largest; while we haven't taken a measuring tape to its competitors, the claim feels like a reliable one. When sufficiently motivated to leave our rooms, we found the Corinthia's location to be equally amenable: within walking distance of Waterloo, Thames banks north and south, Covent Garden to the north, and St. James Park just a few minutes southwest. Of course, if you'd rather not leave the hotel at all—there is a garden space and a new ESPA facility as well—look into booking one of the hotel's seven “signature” suites. Our favorite is the wood-paneled Winston Churchill suite, with whiskey bar and outdoor terrace and fireplace, suitable for mulling over your memoirs, or the room service menu. [corinthia.com](http://corinthia.com)

