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VROOM VROOM!

Actress and activist Freida Pinto on India, Ethiopia, and what really moves her (pages 26 and 106)

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22 TRIPS OF A LIFETIME

Reported by
**KATHRYN MAIER AND
SARA TUCKER**

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trip to the Maldives can
be yours for more than
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58 for details.

PHOTOGRAPH BY DAN KULLBERG

A pack of lionesses on
the run in Botswana's
Okavango Delta.BACK BY
POPULAR DEMANDSAVE
50%

5 NIGHTS

ABU DHABI

What: Five nights in Abu Dhabi, with your time split between the city and the desert. Hotels include

★ Jumeirah at Etihad Towers and ★ Qasr Al Sarab Desert Resort by Anantara, which appeared on the June 2013 cover of *Condé Nast Traveler*.

When: Through Sept. 1, 2014 (some blackout dates).

Trip creator: Lindsey Wallace, Linara Travel.

of the Old City that has hosted everyone from Winston Churchill to Madonna; Tel Aviv's Dan Hotel, with a superb sea-front location; and the Scots Hotel in Tiberias.

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

- A private tour with excavation director Ian Stern of underground caverns that were part of a Greek city two centuries before Christ.

- A tour of the Canaanite Fortress of Jerusalem—not yet fully open to the public—with excavation director Eli Shukron, who has been digging in Jerusalem for 25 years.

- A visit to secret rooms in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, where you'll view weapons of the crusading knights (and don a helmet to see how it felt) and hear the story behind the stacks of skulls.

- A private tour of Jerusalem's Israel Museum.

TIP FROM THE TRIP CREATOR
Joseph Yudin, Touring Israel

The meal: *Shikshukit*, a creative spin on the tomato-and-egg dish *shakshouka*, at Machneyuda, in the middle of Jerusalem's open-air market.

SAVE 40% 9 NIGHTS

ISRAEL

DIGGING INTO HISTORY

WHAT: Nowhere does archaeology ignite stronger passions than in the Holy Land, where it seems that every shovelful of dirt contains something of value to people of competing faiths. But that hasn't slowed the diggers. In Jerusalem, you'll see some of their newest discoveries, scheduled to open to the public in 2016, then travel on to Tel Aviv and the Sea of Galilee.

WHEN: Jan.–May 2014, not including holidays.

THE DIGS: Jerusalem's ★ King David, a pink-quartz palace on the edge

BACK BY
POPULAR DEMANDSAVE
40%

12 NIGHTS

TANZANIA AND
SOUTH AFRICA

What: A 12-night safari staying in your choice of nine sumptuous Singita lodges, where you will get close to rhino and elephant herds and spend time with anti-poaching experts who protect them around the clock.

When: Sept. 2013–Sept. 2014 (blackout dates Dec. 15, 2013–Jan. 6, 2014).

Trip creator: Cherri Briggs, Explore.

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

- Two days of touring with a Botswana-based wildlife researcher or conservationist in a private vehicle.

- A visit to the Joubert film camp (Oct.–March).

- An excursion to seek out Ma di Tau, the famous lioness from the film *The Last Lions* (Nov.–March).

- A private cruise on the HBS Zibadianja through the delta channels.

- The option to add a week in Zambia, with a visit to Victoria Falls and the Lower Zambezi, where you will meet the Goba people, visit projects supported by Whole World Water, and learn about conservation challenges, then go tiger fishing in Lower Zambezi National Park.

SAVE 40% 9 NIGHTS

BOTSWANA
TRACKING LIONS WITH
THE PROS

WHAT: How to show a lion you're friendly? By rubbing whiskers with big-cat specialists in the field and learning about the issues facing lions and leopards. Your safari—in the famed Okavango Delta—supports efforts to protect Africa's beleaguered felines.

WHEN: Oct. 2013–Nov. 2014 (blackout dates Dec. 19–Jan. 11).

THE DIGS: Zarafa Camp and either Selinda Explorers Camp or Duba Plains Camp, two of the three swanky sanctuaries designed by Dereck and Beverly Joubert, researchers and documentary filmmakers.

TIP FROM THE TRIP CREATOR
Cherri Briggs, Explore

The souvenir: A handwoven basket from South Africa's Zulu people.