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River cruising  
on the Amazon



**On tour:**

Bonding at GoldenEye

Gowns and stallions in Vienna

Golfing with ghouls

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EDITOR'S MESSAGE

# Snowflakes or sunshine?

**F**rosted windows, crisp cool air, fresh snow—there's just nothing quite like wintertime in Canada. Real style, however, isn't seasonal; it's a way of life. So, whether you indulge in the cold temperatures or hide away until sunny spring appears, this issue has pages of travel experiences, properties and products that will make it right to the top of your must-have list.

If you're like me and would rather be warm and comfy anywhere and anytime, you'll want to check out our favourite fireplaces (page 25). Why not have a bottle of wine to keep your insides warm, too? Find the perfect winter wine and comfort food pairings in Natalie MacLean's latest edition of "Un-wine(d)" (page 76).

Ok, so you want to get far, far away from shovelling snow. We have some great travel articles in this issue. Garry McKay is "golfing with ghouls" in

Montego Bay on page 66, and my daughter and I check out Canyon Ranch in Tucson on page 68. Further afield, it's the beginning of ball season in Vienna (page 57)—and there's never been a better time for a journey like no other on the Orient-Express train to Machu Picchu, followed by an incredible Amazonian adventure on the Aqua riverboat (page 51).

If, on the other hand, you love winter and plan to stay in town, be sure to attend this year's Interior Design Show, from January 26 to 29. *Homefront's* editors had an exclusive pre-event chat with a few of this year's special guests (page 16). Take the lead from Sebastien and have a marvellous "love the snow" dinner to celebrate (page 80). Need a rush instead? Hop on a plane and find yourself a cozy ski chalet to buy or rent at one of the world's most amazing ski resorts (page 47).

Whatever you're into—travelling, renovating, rebuilding or cocooning—you're sure to find invigorating ideas and blueprints for action right here in *Homefront*, and on our website [www.homefrontmagazine.ca](http://www.homefrontmagazine.ca). So explore, take it easy or relax; whatever your pleasure, we've got you covered. ■



*Paroline*

Caroline Tapp-McDougall,  
Editor-in-Chief

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**SAN FRANCISCO JAZZ FESTIVAL**

features



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PERU, CUSCO

## History in every corner

Once considered the center of the world in Andean Cosmology, Cusco was the city from where the governors of the empire directed the nation. Divided into seven by the Inca king Pachacuti, the city is said to resemble the shape of a puma—an animal sacred to the Incas.

Located in the heart of the city, the Inkaterra Hotel, where I'm staying post-river cruise, is an exquisite 16th-

century colonial mansion. Small, exclusive and carefully restored, with only 11 fabulous suites, the Yaku spa and private dining room, it offers modern luxury blended with authentic historical heritage. The hotel captures the sense of privilege experienced by those who once lived there. Stay at Inkaterra and you'll be supporting sustainable tourism initiatives and reforestation efforts. [www.inkaterra.com/en/cusco](http://www.inkaterra.com/en/cusco)



Photos: Inkaterra Hotel

A night at Hotel Monasterio is like going back five centuries without giving up the comforts. Its foundations lie on top of the Incan Amaru Quala Palace, the site chosen as a monastery by Jesuits and again later by Cusco's sixth archbishop. Today, its collection of over 100 hotel rooms, many of which resemble old cloisters, is managed by Orient-Express Hotels. [www.monasteriohotel.com](http://www.monasteriohotel.com)



Photo: Hotel Monasterio



PERU, MACHU PICCHU



Photo: Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel

Photo: LAN



## The lost city of the Incas

Sights as incredible as the vast terraces of Jaquijahuana, the beautiful village of Ollantaytambo and the ruins of a major Inca city all await as our private guide begins our tour of this magnificent attraction. Now a reconstructed World Heritage Site, it's an engineering marvel believed to have been built as a summer estate for the Inca king Pachacuti in the 15th century.

And where to stay? A peaceful, private village of Andean casitas, Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel is ideally located at the site of the Machu Picchu Historical Reserve, one of the New Seven Wonders of the World. With tropical gardens in a cloud forest, a spectacular orchid collection and a charming little spa, it's the place to overnight during our visit to the Sacred Valley. [www.inkaterra.com/en/machu-picchu](http://www.inkaterra.com/en/machu-picchu)

### Getting to Peru

LAN's Premium Business Class full-flat seats with ample legroom and Bulgari amenity kits make the long haul easy to handle. Tasty meals with South American flair by Executive Chef Hugo Pantone and Master Sommelier Hector Vergara's wine list make it even better. Domestic travel is convenient and affordable, too. [www.lan.com](http://www.lan.com)

PERU, FROM CUSCO TO MACHU PICCHU



## On the Hiram Bingham

**N**amed after the explorer who discovered the remains of the Inca citadel in 1911, the Hiram Bingham train is the finest way to travel from Cusco to the lost city of Machu Picchu. From 2,350 metres above sea level, it assures a magical journey never to be forgotten.

This Orient-Express train has been

described as a "palace on wheels." With two dining cars, a bar car and a kitchen car, the train's carriages are painted a distinctive blue and gold, and elegantly furnished in the style of the 1920s Pullman carriages.

The observation car gives us a glimpse of the brave souls who are trekking the legendary four-day, 43-kilometre Inca Trail. We salute their efforts with Inka Kola and live Peruvian music in the bar carriage.

Our train ticket includes a four-course lunch that begins with an *amuse bouche*, followed by pumpkin cream soup scented with star anise and salmon trout fillet with a pale-pink peppercorn sauce. We finish with a light chocolate dessert and tea in the bar before arriving comfortably at the station. Tomorrow's return trip promises to be another treat.

[www.orient-express.com/web/hb/hiram\\_bingham.jsp](http://www.orient-express.com/web/hb/hiram_bingham.jsp)



Photos: Orient-Express