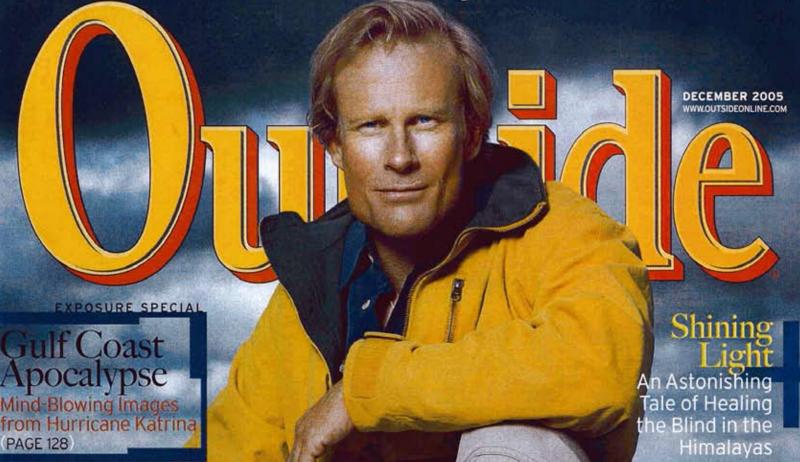
EXCLUSIVE REPORT

BRINGING DOWN LANCE Inside the Crusade to Disgrace a Champion)



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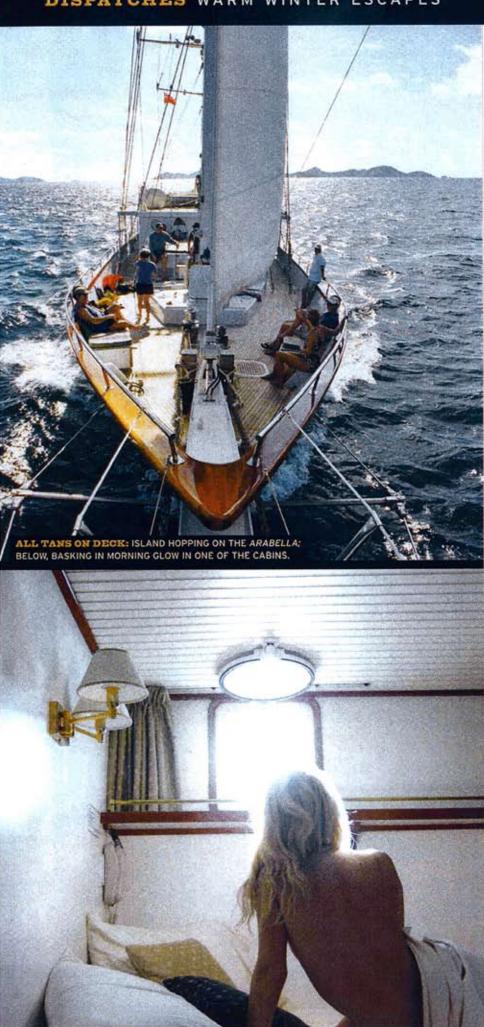
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longsnout seahorses, and the Turneffe Islands' soaring coral pinnacles. There's also landlubber adventure, with guided visits to red-footed booby reserves, secluded mangrove forests, an important grouper spawning ground at Glover's Reef atoll, and Carrie Bow Caye, a Smithsonian marine-research field station. A team of lecturers and naturalists complements the site visits with expert analysis and explanation. And don't worry: The ship even calls at the rightly renowned Blue Hole. EIGHT DAYS FROM \$4,390, ALL-INCLUSIVE; 888-993-8687, WWW.WORLDWILDLIFE.ORG/TRAVEL

O CAPTAIN! MY CAPTAIN!

The Arabella, St. Barthélemy

If you've always wanted to yacht like a blueblooded New Englander but couldn't stand the chill, take note: This January, the 160-foot Arabella will add a seven-day itinerary through the islands of St. Bart's, French St. Martin, and Anguilla to its list of regular northerly routes. Starting in Marigot, the café-filled village capital of St. Martin, you'll sail around the Caribbean in style: The intimate 20-stateroom yacht has incabin satellite television and phones, a hot-water spa, and daily deckside hors d'oeuvres and spiced rum punch. You can also arrange for oneon-one sailing tutorials on the Arabella's operations with the ship's captain and crew.

Leave the mother ship for day trips swimming and snorkeling at Colombier Bay Beach, a private, sandy cove accessible only by boat or a half-hour hike along a steep, rocky goat path. Or drop anchor at Île Fourche, a jewel of a deserted island that teems with undersea life, for worldclass diving and sea kayaking. The trip finishes off with a dinner at the exclusive Eden Rock hotel, in St. Jean-once a hideaway for Garbo, it's perched high on a rocky promontory. Here, you'll be right at home uttering her famous line from Anna Christie: "Gimme a whiskey, ginger ale on the side. And don't be stingy, baby!" FROM \$1,295, BASED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY, INCLUD-ING MOST MEALS AND ACTIVITIES; 800-395-1343, WWW.CRUISEARABELLA.COM

GRECO-CARIBBEAN FUSION

The Beach House, Barbuda

Miles of pink-sand beaches front the aptly named Beach House, a tranquil 21-room lodge that opened last year on the tiny scuba paradise of Barbuda, one of Antigua's sister islands. The look is Greek-island-meets-minimalist, with distinctive whitewashed buildings, teak deck chairs, and spare walls hung with black-and-white photographs. But the atmosphere is Caribbean luxe: Guests are met with frosty cocktails brought by "service ambassadors," designated personal butlers who set up complimentary welcome massages and diving, fishing, and horseback excursions around the island. A gleaming saltwater

DISPATCHES WARM WINTER ESCAPES

pool is the centerpiece of the open-air Club House, which also features a library, bar, and fusion restaurant with seafood specialties like lobster tagliatelle. A short walk through the lounge leads to breezy beaches where snorkelers can mingle with rays, dolphins, and schools of barracuda. Postswim, settle into an overstuffed white recliner and ponder the gushy collision of the Atlantic and the Caribbean. There are no televisions in the guest rooms, which feature king-size four-poster beds, but rest assured: Upon departure you'll wish you were always so unplugged. DOUBLES FROM \$750; 888-776-0333, WWW.THEBEACHHOUSEBARBUDA.COM