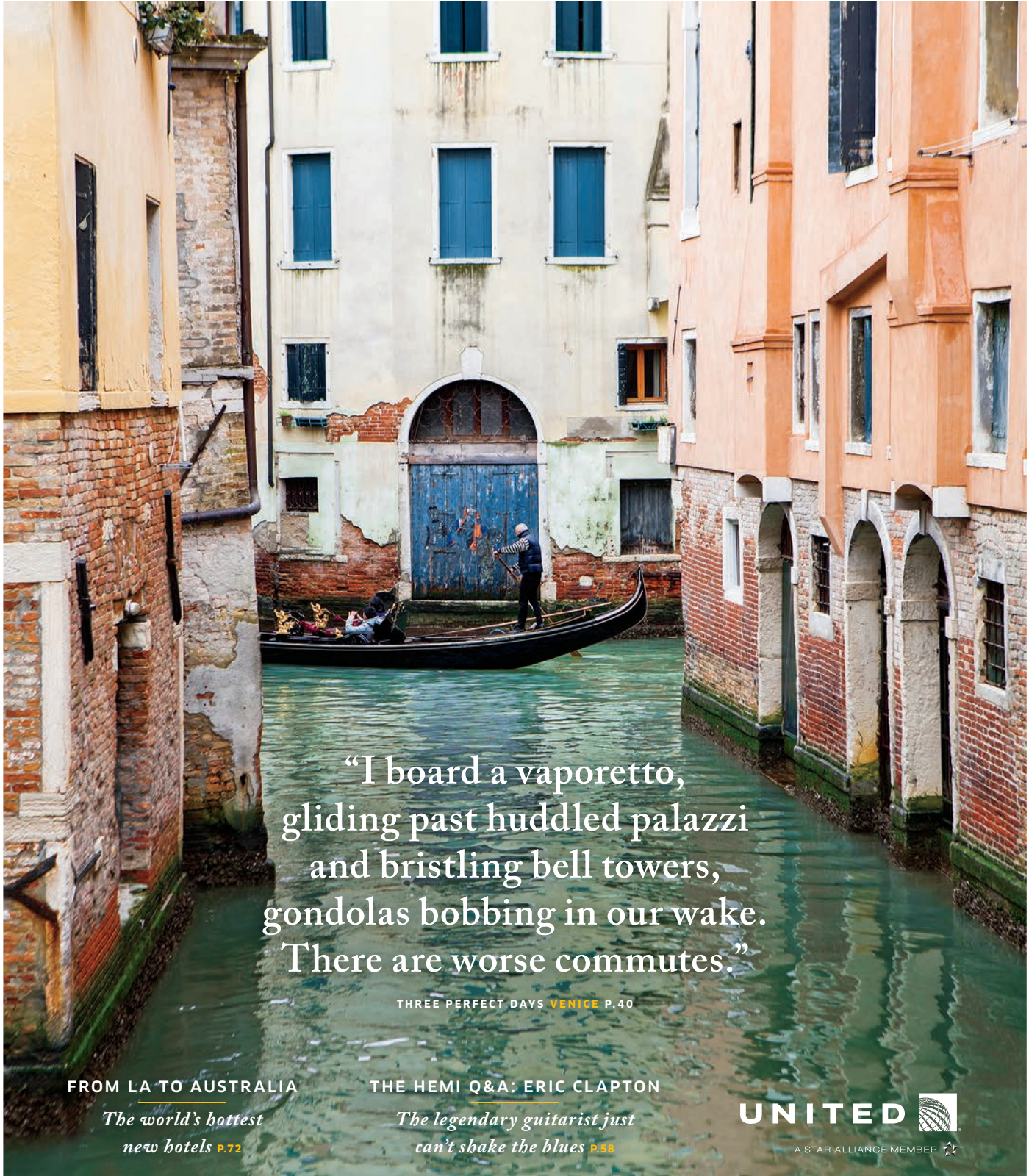


Hemispheres

MAY 2016

A photograph of a narrow Venetian canal. The water is a greenish-grey color. On the left, there's a brick wall with a white ledge. On the right, there's a multi-story building with orange and red facades and arched windows. In the center, a white building with blue shutters and a blue door is visible. A gondola with a gondolier and passengers is in the canal.

“I board a vaporetto,
gliding past huddled palazzi
and bristling bell towers,
gondolas bobbing in our wake.
There are worse commutes.”

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FROM LA TO AUSTRALIA

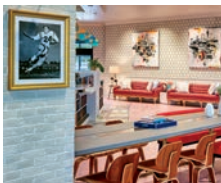
*The world's hottest
new hotels* P. 72

THE HEMI Q&A: ERIC CLAPTON

*The legendary guitarist just
can't shake the blues* P. 58

UNITED 

A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER 



For Football Fans

The Graduate

Oxford, Mississippi

The Graduate mini-chain made its name opening upscale boutique hotels in college towns, from Madison to Tempe. Last fall, it debuted a fifth outpost, in Oxford, timed to the start of the Ole Miss football season and its famous tailgate. The Mannings—former Ole Miss QBs Eli and Archie, plus Peyton—are close friends with the owners of the 136-room hotel, which pays homage to them with toiletry baskets bearing Eli and Archie's numbers and silhouettes of Archie and his wife, Olivia (an Ole Miss prom queen) on the walls.



For History Buffs

Hotel de Tourrel

Saint-Rémy-de-Provence, France



For Stylish Beach Bums

Halcyon House

Cabarita Beach, Australia

Opened last May in a converted 1960s seaside motel, the 21-room Halcyon House is bringing high style to the scruffy surfers' paradise of Cabarita Beach, an hour and a half south of Brisbane. The property, set back from the sand behind a grove of palmlike pandanus trees, brims with eclectic flea-market finds, boldly patterned upholstered walls, and a palette that skews toward *marinière*-style navies and whites. Work up an appetite by taking a private lesson with pro surfer Joel Parkinson, hiking through the coastal rainforest to Norries Headland, playing croquet or bocce on the lawn, or taking a free bike out for a spin. Helmed by former Noma station chef Ben Devlin, on-site restaurant Paper Daisy takes its name from the wildflowers that grow along the headland; it serves up the kind of no-frills coastal fare you might eat around a beach bonfire, such as native bay lobster, pippies (local cockles), and paperbark-grilled fish with seaweed and beach plants.

Tucked among olive groves in the always-sunny mountains of southern France, the fortified town of Saint-Rémy-de-Provence has a particularly rich history. It was the site of a Gallo-Roman settlement, birthplace to Nostradamus, and home to the asylum where van Gogh painted *The Starry Night* after cutting off his ear. Since the 17th century, the stone palace of the Tourrel d'Almeran family has stood watch, and last May it was converted into an intimate design hotel, where each of the seven suites contains a story. Number Two, for example, is believed to be the salon where composer Charles Gounod premiered his 1863 opera *Mireille*, while other rooms contain, say, an 18th-century marble fireplace or an ornately painted ceiling. Inside, the decor is modish rather than fussily period-appropriate, with blond parquet floors and 1920s tubular steel tables from early Modernist designer Eileen Gray.



For Oenophiles

Six Senses Douro Valley

Quinta de Vale Abraão, Portugal

The Six Senses brand, known for its eco-friendly spas, opened its first European resort last July in a palatial manor in the UNESCO-protected Alto Douro wine region—a dramatic landscape of terraced vineyards not far from Porto that has produced port wine for centuries. Naturally, the hotel's beating heart is the rustic-chic Wine Library, where wine geeks can use touchscreens to browse area varieties and producers and join in tastings with the property's sommelier.

