# INSPIRATO

# simple PIASURES

SPORT OF KINGS

Surfing Escapes the Family Can Share

PAR NONE

Five Great Golf Getaways

**GAME CHANGER** 

How Andre Agassi Serves Today's Youth

IN VINO VERITAS

Uncorking the Secrets of Sonoma

**EXTRA INNINGS** 

Where All-Star First Baseman Mark Teixeira Unwinds



# The Perfect Shot

SIX GREAT CAMERAS TO CAPTURE ANY VACATION }

With so many cameras on the market, choosing the ideal model and style can be daunting. So we did the work for you. Categorized in classes, we've come up with six great cameras to record your next grand adventure. BY LOGAN KUGLER



#### PROFESSIONAL POINT-AND-SHOOT

LEICA M9 | \$6,995, LEICA.COM

## PARIS FOR PROS

WHAT IT'S GOT: The Leica M9 is a camera buff's dream. As its price tag reflects, this camera is in a league all its own. If you don't mind toting a camera that's too big for your pocket, the Leica M9 is the best compact around. Period. Although small, it has a full-frame sensor, so it produces photos nearly on par with the Canon 5D Mark II (another of our recommendations). Nearly. And, it's a Leica. Built with the best materials and to the strictest specifications, you will love the camera's design, construction and feel. Best of all, the M9's 18.1 megapixels makes it a camera that rivals some of the leading digital SLRs available today.





#### **WATERPROOF CAMERA**

NIKON COOLPIX AW100 | \$379.95, NIKON.COM

# SURFING NEWPORT

WHEN TO USE: Whether headed somewhere rugged, underwater, to the desert, or on a backcountry adventure, Nikon's COOLPIX AW100 is the perfect companion. WHAT IT'S GOT: When adventure calls, reach for this hardy, reliable camera. Despite its respectable 16 megapixels, its photo quality can't compare to the others in this lineup, but its rugged features make it a must for the great outdoors. It's fully waterproof (down to 33 feet), geotags your photos with its built-in GPS, survives drops and takes HD video—all in a package less than one inch thick. And it's the quickest of the rugged bunch, with a start-up time of only 1.4 seconds and virtually zero shutter lag. The COOLPIX AW100 is a super durable camera ready for almost any adventure you can throw its way.



### **O** ULTRA COMPACT

IPHONE 4G S | FROM \$199, APPLE.COM

# **CRUISING THE STREETS OF CHICAGO**

WHEN TO USE: Any time you don't have another camera on you. WHAT IT'S GOT: The iPhone 4G S might be a phone, but famed photographer Annie Leibovitz has gushed over its 8-megapixel camera. For capturing impromptu moments, it simply can't be beat. Its Wifi capability makes it incredibly easy to e-mail photos or share them on Facebook, even if you're not connected to a WiFi network. It's built-in GPS lets you automatically tag your images with the exact location they were taken, allowing you to look at a global map and see where you took each photo. The iPhone 4G S also shoots decent 1080p HD video, and is a music player and 100 other things (enabled by apps downloadable from the App Store right on the phone). In the right hands, the iPhone 4G S is capable of producing beautiful images in an incredibly compact, always accessible package. TIPS: Try not to use the forward-facing camera; it's significantly lower quality than the rear one; use the screen to tap on the object you want to focus on and the iPhone's camera will focus there; download the Facebook app for super easy sharing.

#### MEAD/HELMET CAM

GOPRO HD HERO2 OUTDOOR EDITION | \$299.99, GOPRO.COM

# **SKIING JACKSON HOLE**

WHEN TO USE: When your hands are full of adventure or you just want to record from your point-of-view perspective. WHAT IT'S GOT: If you want to make a video out of your vacation, bring along a GoPro HD HERO2 to make it more exciting. It's simply the best head camera on the market and GoPro has a huge selection of different mounts available, whether you want to strap it to your head, chest, wrist, surfboard, outside of your car, or elsewhere. The point-of-view perspective keeps viewers on the edge of their seats and the context of the adventure doesn't even have to be particularly extreme to capture thrilling video: you could be heli-skiing, skydiving, or just walking around a foreign land. Even boarding a plane looks exciting from this perspective.





#### **O** COMPACT AMATEUR POINT-AND-SHOOT

OLYMPUS XZ-1 | \$499.99, OLYMPUSAMERICA.COM

# ON THE BEACH IN CABO

WHEN TO USE: When you don't want to lug around a bulky digital SLR. WHAT IT'S GOT: It's been called 'The King of Compacts.' And for good reason. It's small enough to fit into a pocket, yet powerful enough to capture fantastic images. At the heart of its superiority is the fast and super bright F1.8 ZUIKO wide lens, which produces accurate and vivid colors straight out of the camera. It's only 10 megapixels, but the lens counts just as much and it easily bests the 16 megapixels we've seen on other cameras. Combined with it's 3-inch extremely sharp OLED display, lots of cool shooting modes, and ease-of-use, the XZ-1 is as solid of a choice as it gets for point-and-shoots.

#### VIDEO CAMERA

SAMSUNG W200 POCKET CAMCORDER \$159.99, SAMSUNG.COM

#### **PATAGONIA PERFECT**

WHEN TO USE: When you want to capture video in an environment where you wouldn't dare take your iPhone 4G S out in. WHAT IT'S GOT: Single-use devices are becoming a thing of the past. Except for the Leica M9, all of these cameras also shoot video. That's why we haven't included a standalone camcorder in this list. We think they're no longer necessary. But if you're looking for a small, versatile video camera, pick up a Samsung W200 Pocket Camcorder. This video camera easily slips in your pack or your pocket and can be whipped out to record an impromptu event or used in wet or dusty conditions without having to worry about babying it. It's water-, shock- and dustproof and comes with a built-in USB.



#### **FULL-SIZE SLR**

CANON 5D MARK II WITH EF 24-105MM F/4L IS USM LENS | \$2,799, CANON.COM

# WILDLIFE SAFARI IN KENYA

Editor's Choice WHEN TO USE: When you know the opportunity for great photos will be aplenty and you don't mind bringing along a larger camera you have to

wear on your shoulder. WHAT IT'S GOT: The Canon 5D Mark II is simply the best of all worlds and the most important camera in this list. It's the benchmark to which all other cameras are compared. Think of it as your go-to, do-it-all workhorse to take out when the shots really count. The Canon 5D Mark II is built from a lightweight plastic frame that is considerably rugged, and the phenomenal image quality is something you have to see to believe: it's like looking through an open window at the scene. In super low light, this camera is incredibly capable, especially when paired with Canon's L. But equally as impressive as its photography prowess is its video capability. This digital SLR shoots beautiful full 1080P HD video that rivals even the best consumer standalone camcorders. Pair it with a Zeiss Compact Prime CP.2 Cine lens and you have a Hollywoodquality movie-making machine on your shoulder. Bottom line: if you're looking for a single camera that is the complete package, end your search with the Canon 5D Mark II. 🛍



# Have Apps, Will Travel

Want a travel partner that doubles as an expert sommelier, talented polyglot and passionate tour guide? Look no further than your smartphone or tablet. Travel apps aplenty are on tap for your favorite mobile devices. These are the best and brightest of the crowd. BY LOGAN KUGLER





#### WORD LENS

Seeing is believing. Hold a device running Word Lens up to a sign, restaurant menu or image with foreign language text and watch it translate the words before your eyes. It's one of the best "augmented reality" apps out there, and it'll change the way you globetrot. The app currently supports English, French and Spanish—with more languages on the way.

WORKS WITH: IPHONE, IPAD AND IPOD TOUCH; APP IS FREE, BUT LANGUAGE PACKS COST \$9.99 EACH

## **GOOGLE TRANSLATE**



You may know a little of the local lingo when traveling abroad, but chances are your accent won't earn you any honorary

degrees. That's where the Google Translate app comes in. It translates across more than 60 languages and reads a handful of them aloud to interlocutors. Heavily-used phrases can also be bookmarked for those in a rush to find the nearest toilette.

WORKS WITH: IPHONE, IPAD, IPOD TOUCH
AND ANDROID PHONES: FREE





#### **CURRENCY**

Money changes hands fast. Exchange rates fluctuate even faster. Use Currency to access real-time rates for more than 180 currencies around the world. It'll show you exactly how much the wad in your wallet is worth at any given moment and calculate how much souvenirs cost in your own currency.

WORKS WITH: IPHONE, IPAD, IPOD TOUCH, ANDROID AND WEBOS DEVICES; FREE



## COR.KZ

Your travel mantra will be In Vino Veritas after firing up Cor.kz. Type in the name of a vintage or scan the barcode and watch the app pull tasting notes, ratings and recommendations from wine database CellarTracker's million-bottle archive. The ultimate companion for oenophiles and novices alike, Cor.kz will ensure you drink well at a great price—no matter where your travels take you.

WORKS WITH: IPHONE, IPAD, IPOD TOUCH, ANDROID AND WEBOS DEVICES; FREE



#### RAMA

Call Marty McFly: Rama is your own personal time machine. The app's custom walking tours usher you through a location's greatest historic events and show you how the area looked in times gone by. Diverse tour offerings include everything from Egypt's ancient temples to Civil War battlegrounds. Tours are timed, so busy travelers can see just how long it'll take to walk through history.

WORKS WITH: IPHONE AND IPAD; APP IS FREE, TOURS COST BETWEEN \$0.99 AND \$2.99

#### **STAR WALK**



Ancient navigators plotted their courses by the stars. Star Walk does them one better. Point your iPhone

or iPad at the sky and the app will tell you exactly what you're looking at, with real-time constellation patterns and star information displayed every time you move your device. Not only is it the most incredible star-gazing app available, but it also provides kids with hours of edutainment while parents soak in the sights.

WORKS WITH: IPHONE AND IPAD; \$2.99 FOR IPHONE, \$4.99 FOR IPAD

