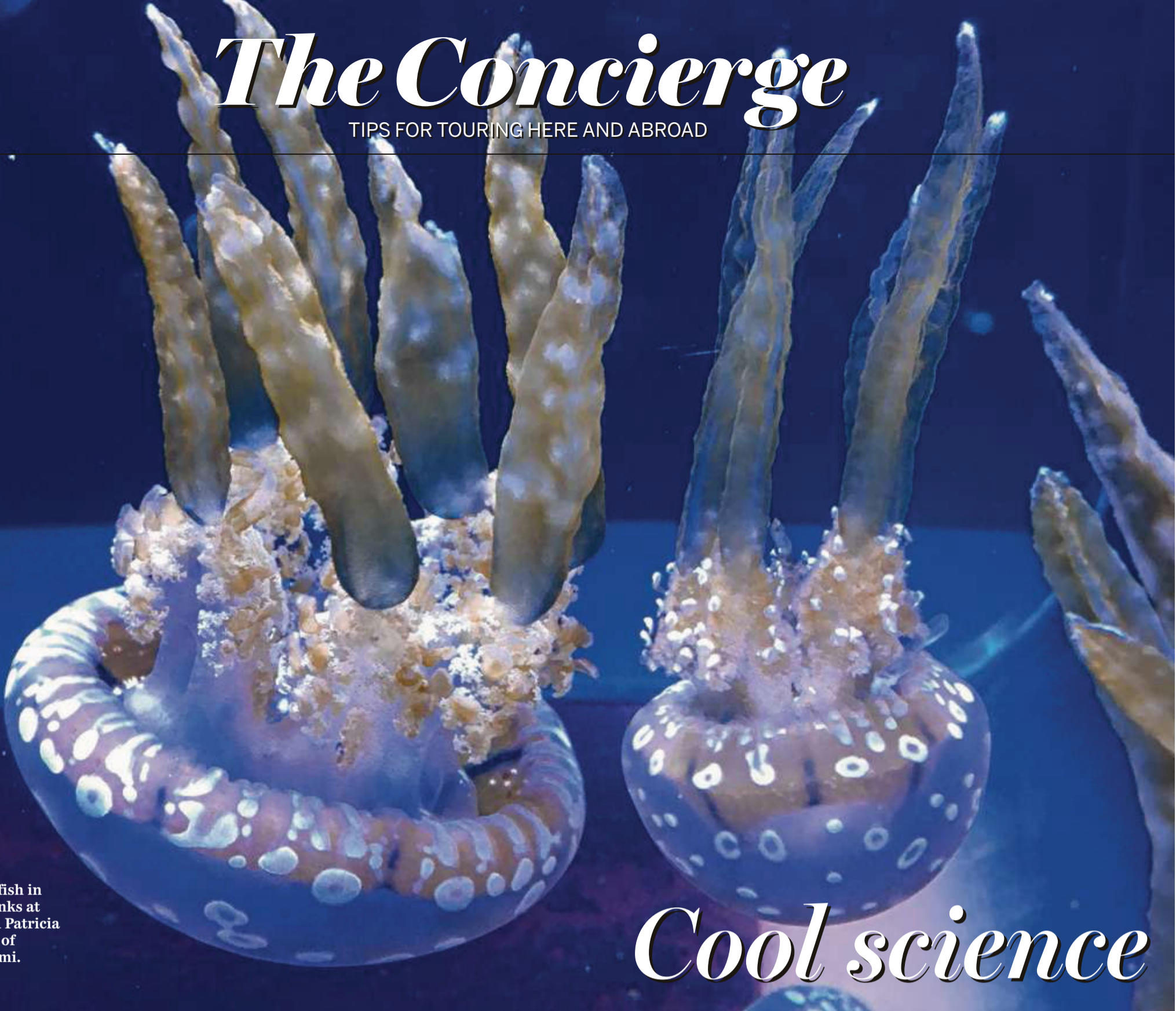


The Concierge

TIPS FOR TOURING HERE AND ABROAD



Pulsating jellyfish in illuminated tanks at the Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science in Miami.

Cool science

PHOTOS BY NECEE REGIS FOR THE BOSTON GLOBE

BY NECEE REGIS | GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

MIAMI — Andy Dehart saw his first shark at age 5 when he was snorkeling with his dad in the Florida Keys, and he credits that sighting as inspiration for his lifelong devotion to the marine environment.

“I’m very passionate about getting kids connected to marine ecology. We need the next generation. Public aquariums are the perfect place to get that spark going,” said Dehart, who has the impressive title of vice president of animal husbandry at the Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science.

Even more impressive is the museum itself — also simply referred to as Frost Science — the newest addition to the growing Miami cityscape. With a mission to inspire interest in the wonder and power of science, the new 250,000-square-foot campus is already a popular attraction for locals and visitors. Open since May, the

Continued on next page



MeLab is a zone where kids can learn about science and health while playing, moving, and occasionally jumping about on an interactive sound-and-color-lighted floor.

HERE

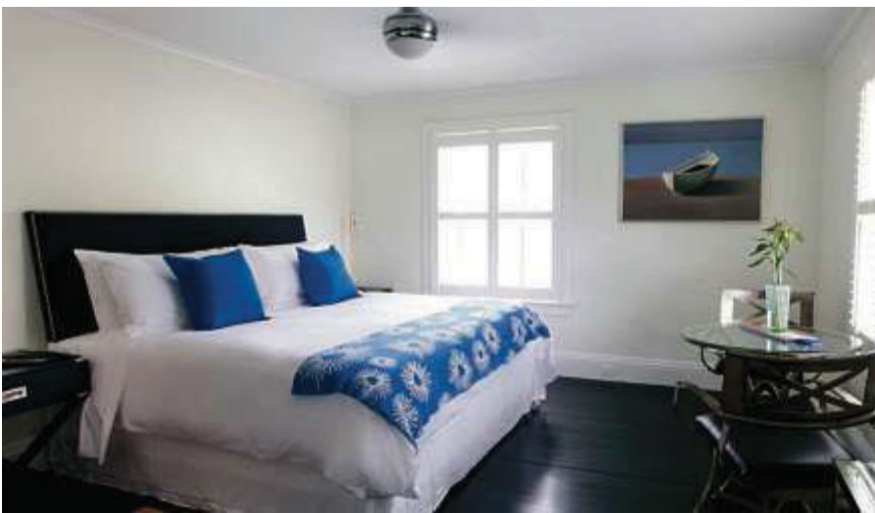
BOSTON MARATHON AMENITIES
Run, don't walk, to The Bostonian Boston (at right) for terrific guest perks during Marathon weekend (April 13-16). Runners and other guests who are staying at the hotel can enjoy a series of amenities and offerings that include a Sunday night pasta dinner (\$25 for a series of different pastas including penne Bolognese, fettuccine Alfredo with shrimp, and classic spaghetti with meatballs); art supplies to decorate signs to cheer on your favorite runners; pre-race fuel-up station with bananas, power bars, Gatorade, nuts, and more for runners to grab before departing for the starting line; postrace recovery package with towels, blankets, robes, complimentary food and pre-packaged ice bags; 10-minute massages following the race (available for all Marathon runners); and framed Marathon completion certificate. Rates from \$314 with no minimum length of stay. 617-523-3600, www.millenniumhotels.com/en/boston/the-bostonian-boston

EARLY RESERVATIONS SUPPORT AFFORDABLE HOUSING
On Martha's Vineyard, the seven-room Nobnocket Boutique Hotel (at right) has created a campaign to support the Island Housing Trust. The hotel is committed to donating five percent of all revenue to regular-priced reservations made in April, for stays anytime through the fall, to this local non-profit organization that creates and sustains affordable housing on the island. The campaign has zero cost for people



making reservations while aiding an important charitable organization. Normal policies apply, as does a 50 percent deposit at time of booking. The luxury inn, on almost two acres of land, is a secluded and romantic getaway within walking distance of the ferry and Vineyard Haven's restaurants and shops. Rates from \$170 to \$495. 508-696-0859, www.nobnocket.com

NEW HAMPSHIRE 5K AND CHILI FEST COMBO
Celebrate spring's spicy arrival at the 15th Annual Chili Cookoff and the 2nd Annual Feelin' Good 5K race in North Conway, N.H., April 7. Sponsored by the Mount Washington Valley Chamber of Commerce, the chili competition includes professional chef entries — judged by members of the



American Culinary Federation White Mountain Chapter — and nonprofit and home chefs who vie for the People's Choice Award, selected by all tasters. New this year: Hourglass Adventures offers an escape game designed specifically for the event. 11 a.m.- 3 p.m. Tickets: Adults \$15; ages 12 and under \$7. Before the chili lovefest, stimulate your appetite at the family-friendly 5K race or walk that begins at 9 a.m. at the entrance to Schouler Park, and takes a scenic loop through the back roads of North Conway to Cranmore Mountain and back. Adults \$25; Youth/students \$15 (includes discounted entry into the chili cook-off). www.mtwashingtonvalley.org/events/mwvchilicookoff.cfm

THERE

MODERN MEXICAN HOTEL DEBUTS IN PUERTO VALLARTA
Experience a minimal, modern, and Mexican aesthetic set against a dramatic backdrop of the Sierra Madre mountains at Hotel Amapa, a 55-room hotel debuting April 2 in the historic old town of Puerto Vallarta. Named after the neighborhood within the Zona Romantica in which the hotel is located (as well as a beautiful tree that blooms with pink blossoms) the hotel is in close proximity to restaurants, bars, hikes, and idyllic beaches. In addition to Pacific Ocean and old town views, rooftop pool and bar, street level café and restaurant serving coastal Mexican cuisine, the hotel showcases bespoke local craftsmanship with bar coverings from Oaxaca by David Pompa, weaves by fiber artist Mariella

Motilla, and artisanal hammocks from the Yucatan peninsula. Guests ages 18 and older welcome. Rates from \$100 to \$300. www.hotelamapa.com

EVERYWHERE

360-DEGREE VIDEO RECORDING EYEWEAR
Capture your epic travel memories, from mountain hikes to seaside adventures, with Orbi Prime (below), the first 360-degree video and image recording eyewear. Equipped with four cameras and superior image stitching technology, the innovative, sunglass-type wearable device is capable of shooting total 360-degree video with no blind spots, offering an exceptional hands-free recording experience. Allows users to instantly share videos with friends, family, and favorite social networks through Orbi Prime's built-in Wi-Fi. Polycarbonate polarized lens features scratch-resistant, anti-reflective coating. Available to pre-order. Shipments to start in August. \$399. www.orbiprime.com

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