

Try these 18 destinations for 2018

By **CHRISTOPHER REYNOLDS**

JAN 7, 2018

You know that saying about eating dessert first because life is short? It goes for travel too.

These destinations, which include cities, rivers and one ancient trading route, demand your attention in the year ahead.

Some have opened new attractions, some are planning big parties to celebrate major anniversaries and others have prospered by staying out of trouble. Here are your 18 for '18, in alphabetical order.

3. Bologna, Italy



Shoppers walk in the streets of Bologna, Italy. (Awakening / Getty Images)

It's less crowded than Italy's top-tier tourist cities, but renowned within the country for its cuisine and historic architecture. And it has a [faulty tower](#) that leans even more severely than Pisa's — prime Instagram material.

On the food scene, Bologna is home to the new [FICO Eataly World](#), which opened in November. (FICO stands for Fabbrica Italiana Contadina, or Italian farming factory. And yes, these are the same people who run the just-opened Eataly in Los Angeles.) This complex, about 15 minutes outside central Bologna, fills about 20 acres with fields, workshops, markets, kitchens, shops, classrooms and, of course, restaurants.

Some worry it will compete with the city's traditional markets and eateries, but the buzz is upbeat. Meanwhile, there's the [Gelato Museum](#), founded in 2012. Florence and Venice are within 100 miles.

Info: [Bologna Welcome](#)