

# The Concierge

TIPS FOR TOURING HERE AND ABROAD



The user-generated app includes adventures that are unique and leave little or no mark on the planet. Launched last year, the app currently has about 10,000 users.

## AN APP FOR ADVENTURE JUNKIES

BY MAYEESHA GALIBA | GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

Choose your own thrills with Adventure Junky, a new app for iPhone and Android that allows players to navigate different experiences around the world with a little friendly competition.

Cofounders Nigel Malone and Fuchsia Claire Sims wanted to respond to the demand for sustainable and transformational travel. The app went through several years of development, during which Malone and Sims looked at the trends of tourism and travel, more specifically adventure travel and impact tourism has on changing the climate.

"We decided we wanted to apply ourselves and try and solve some problems, reinvent travel," said Malone.

The app relies on user-generated content, where participants can submit their own adventures that are then vetted by the Adventure Junky curation team. The goal is

to feature adventures that are unique, spontaneous, and leave little or no mark on the planet. People have the chance to learn about themselves and other cultures while stepping out of their comfort zones.

The adventures vary from a stroll through a quiet forest to a climb up a volcano in Guatemala. The app features more than 100 countries, where there are opportunities to get to know the locals, such as staying in a yurt with a Mongolian family. The curation team attempts to filter out adventures in areas that are hurt by over-tourism, causing things like sustainability problems and affecting animal migration patterns.

There's a social aspect to the app that allows users to follow others, form tribes, and compete against one another. Every completed adventure gives a traveler a certain number of points. Participants use their phone's GPS to prove they were at the site of an adventure, or by sub-

mitting a photo of themselves at a location. There's a worldwide leaderboard to show how users stack up against other "adventure junkies."

What happens if you've already been on a ton of adventures? No worries, you won't need to start over. Whether you went to the Grand Canyon in the '80s or trekked the rain forest a week before you downloaded the app, you can submit picture proof and get points for it.

Currently, the app, which was launched late last year, has about 10,000 users.

While this app may be of particular interest to millennials, Malone contends that seeking out adventure has more to do with the way you think than age or income bracket.

Mayeesha Galiba can be reached at [mayeesha.galiba@globe.com](mailto:mayeesha.galiba@globe.com).

### HERE

#### CRAFT BEER FESTIVAL IN MAINE

Road trip! Round up your family and friends and head to Portland for a day of food, music, craft beer, and more at the Allagash Street Fair (June 24, 1-6 p.m.). Now in its third year, the family-friendly festival has developed into a community gathering where visitors savor food from local purveyors, listen to live music from two stages, participate in a pinewood derby, and — of course — sample beer from 11 breweries, including the Allagash Brewing Company, Battery Steele Brewing, The Lost Abbey, and Austin Street Brewery. Other attractions include an arcade with games, local artisans selling arts and crafts, a photo booth, and more. As a way of giving back to the community, one dollar from every beer purchased directly benefits the Allagash Wilderness Waterway Foundation. Admission restricted to 2,000 guests so advance booking is recommended. Tickets: For those older than 21, \$20; Ages 12-20, \$10; under age 12, free. [www.allagash.com/street-fair-2017](http://www.allagash.com/street-fair-2017)

#### SUMMER CAMP WITHOUT KIDS

Why should kids have all the fun at camp? The folks at Boston Ski & Sports Club (BSSC) think grown-ups should have fun too, and are offering a series of summer camps for adults this summer at Club Getaway, a private 300-acre destination in the Connecticut Berkshires. Singles, friends and couples are welcome at lakeside weekends featuring water-skiing, boating, tennis, kayaking, hiking, biking, golf, tennis, entertainment, parties, mid-



night bonfires, wine tasting, food, keg softball, and more. All-inclusive packages include lodging, all meals (including wine with dinner), all sports and activities, taxes and tips. Fourth of July (June 30-July 4) \$599; Young Pros, ages 21-39 (July 21-23) \$399; Labor Day Weekend (Sept. 1-4) \$499; nonmembers add \$30. [www.bssc.com/index.cfm/pid/10226/y/0/m/0/sb/date/st/asc](http://www.bssc.com/index.cfm/pid/10226/y/0/m/0/sb/date/st/asc)

### THERE

#### MARITIME LODGING PROJECT DEBUTS IN MONTREAL

Experience a blend of urban camping and boating at the new Village de Ecluse, The Village by the Locks, a maritime accommodation project on water and land in the heart of the Old Port in Montreal. Located at the entrance to the Lachine Canal, this 8.5-mile linear urban park crosses southwest of the Island of Montreal from the Old Port to the city of Lachine. Visitors can choose from several accommoda-

tion options including on board of one of 70 classic wooden boats (1920-1970); on land at The Lock Keeper's Cottage, a fully-furnished microchalet; and, for more adventurous travelers, one of eight Park Canada's oTENTik tents — a cross between a tent and a rustic cabin. Rates vary by season and accommodation type. \$82-\$225/night. [www.villagedesecluse.com/home](http://www.villagedesecluse.com/home)

#### MOUNTAIN MOTEL LAUNCHES IN WYOMING

Say goodbye to five-star fussy and hello to stylish and functional comfort at the new 135-room Mountain Modern



Motel. Located in the heart of Jackson Hole, just steps from the town square, the motel is designed to be an affordable basecamp for embarking on year-round adventures in the area, including Grand Teton and Yellowstone national parks. The tiny homes-inspired layout of each room includes a combo kitchen and subway-tiled bathroom, and platform and bunk beds. The multiuse common lobby space encourages conversations and social connections, as well serving light meals and to-go options. At night, the lobby transforms into a festive lounge with adult refreshments. Rates from \$215/night. 307-733-4340. [www.mountainmodernmotel.com](http://www.mountainmodernmotel.com)



doesn't seep into the sand. \$34.99. [www.maximenterprise.com/new-products/e-lite-beach-blanket-pool](http://www.maximenterprise.com/new-products/e-lite-beach-blanket-pool)

#### HOME SECURITY PROTECTS TRAVELERS

Travelers who worry about leaving their home unattended while on vacation may want to consider Blink home security cameras. The palm-sized 720p HD camera systems are easy to install, and connect to a smart phone via the Blink app. Within a fraction of a second of motion detection, the cameras trigger a recording of a short video clip. Users then receive a push notification alert with a link to attached video. Users can also employ a live view mode to access on-demand video streaming through the app. A built-in microphone allows you to see and hear what is happening at home. The new Blink XT Weatherproof HD works indoors and outdoors, and utilizes IR night vision. No contracts and no monthly fees. Two-year battery life. Blink Indoor HD from \$99. Blink XT from \$129. [blinkforhome.com](http://blinkforhome.com)

NECEE REGIS

### EVERYWHERE

#### NEW DUAL USE BEACH AMENITY

Q. When is a beach blanket not a beach blanket? A. When it's a swimming pool. Say, what? The new E Lite Beach Blanket Pool is two products in one. Kids can start their day at the beach sitting or playing on this circular, eco-friendly blanket. When ready for water play, simply dig a hole in the sand, flip the blanket over, and fill with water from a nearby ocean or lake by using the handy waterproof carry bag. The "pool" side of the blanket is also waterproof, so water stays in the hole and