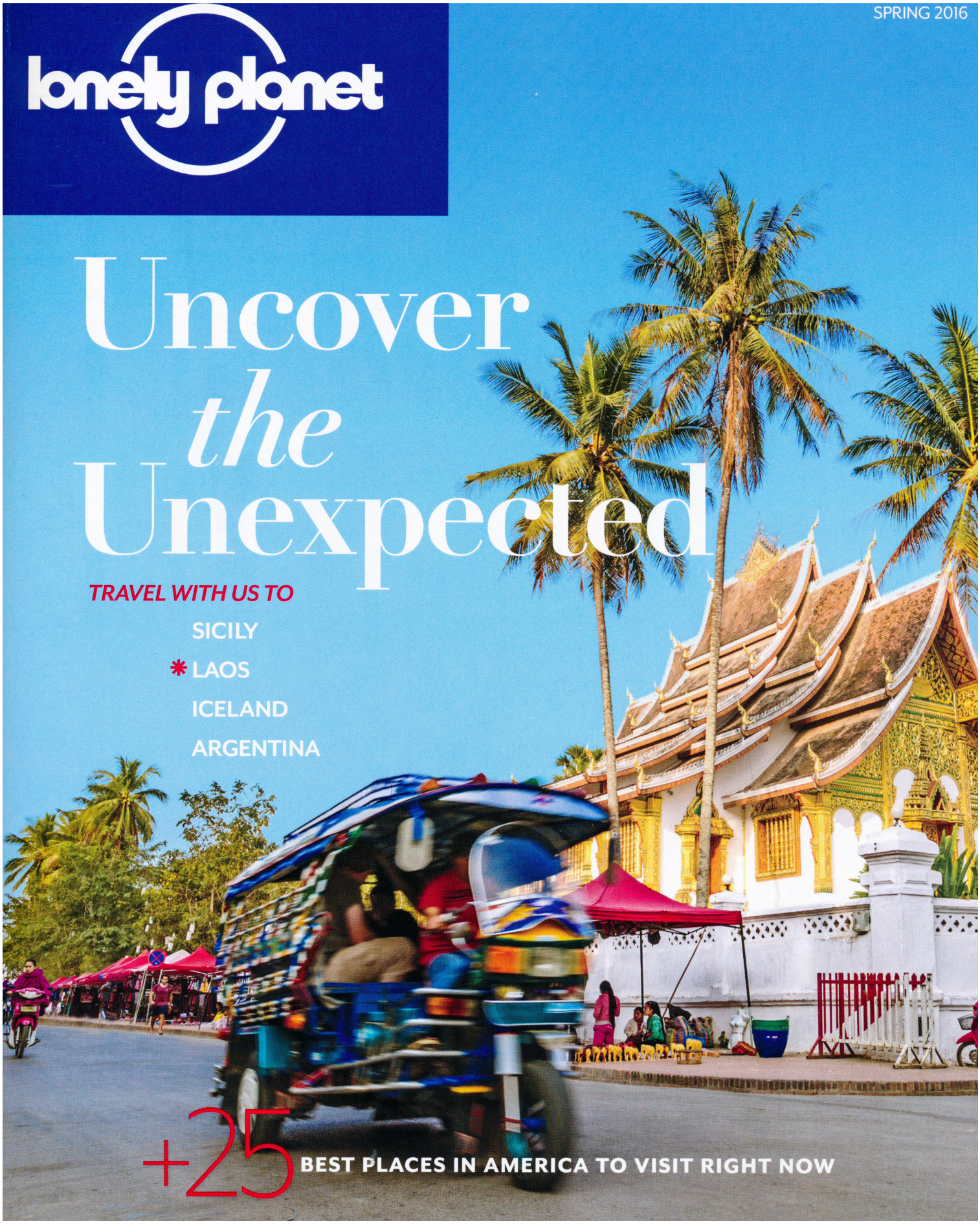
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QUICK ESCAPES FOR SPRING

PHOTO: BRANDON CANNON/INTERSECTION PHOTO

Ready for a spring adventure?

No-hassle getaways to help you bid farewell to winter

Featuring

San Diego, California

Toronto, Ontario

Isla Mujeres, Mexico

Charleston, South Carolina

and more!

// Sunset Cliffs, Ocean Beach, San Diego. A city ordinance against cliff jumping isn't always a deterrent at Sunset Cliffs, where locals have been jumping for decades.

A NEW PERSPECTIVE

Experience the vibrant culture and Southern charm of this foodie favorite.

Its history, food and Southern graciousness are what make CHARLESTON one of the world's favorite cities. Take a fresh look at one of the South's most popular destinations.

After you've taken in the usual sites, such as Rainbow Row, the Old Exchange & Provost Dungeon and Old Slave Mart Museum, head out to discover Charleston through the eyes of the native low country people, the Gullahs, on a Gullah Tour ($18; *gullahtours.com*), where you can visit sites such as The Whipping House and Catfish Row.

Charleston boasts acclaimed restaurants such as Husk (*huskrestaurant.com*), the Obstinate Daughter (*theobstinatedaughter.com*) and The Macintosh (*themacintoshcharleston.com*), but there also are excellent lesser-known spots to try. Two, for starters: Poogan's Porch (*poogansporch.com*) turns out solid low-country dishes in a casual setting, and Xiao Bao Biscuit (*xiaobao-biscuit.com*) is a delicious anomaly of Vietnamese and classic Southern cuisine.

The Zac Brown Band's Southern Ground Music & Food Festival (*southerngroundfestival.com*), April 16–17, is your chance to enjoy live (mostly country) music while dining on artisan food.

For more on Charleston, see our *Discover USA* travel guide and *charlestoncvb.com*.

TOUR FOUR HISTORIC CHURCHES ON THE GATEWAY WALK. ONE TOUR STOP IS CIRCULAR CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, WHICH PRESENTS THE WEEKLY "SOUND OF CHARLESTON" PRODUCTION (*SOUNDOFCHARLESTON.COM*), FEATURING JAZZ, GOSPEL, CIVIL WAR SONGS AND MORE.

Clockwise from top left: Historic houses overlooking Charleston Harbor // outside Zero George // oysters at Husk Restaurant

GET THERE

Charleston International Airport has added more direct flights in recent years, but connecting in Charlotte or Atlanta are viable options as well. The airport is 12 miles from downtown and is best reachable by taxi or the North Area Shuttle, the NASH ($3 per person per trip). A rental car isn't a necessity if you plan to stay downtown.

STAY

VBRO and Airbnb are popular options in Charleston. These services can make your dreams of staying in a charming converted carriage house come true. If you prefer a hotel, try the new Zero George (from $289; *zerogeorge.com*), a carriage house complex offering 18 nicely appointed studios and suites downtown.

SEE

View the sparkling jewel of the low country from a new vantage point when you take in a sunset at Remley's Point in Mount Pleasant, just across the bridge. Take note of the church steeples that dot Charleston's skyline. The many houses of worship, and its history of religious tolerance, earned Charleston the nickname the Holy City.