

Hot this month Havana, craft soda, Asheville, kimchi, beer tourism, sketch comedy

American Airlines

America's Way

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"YOU'RE TERMINATED!"

ARNIE ON THE NEW CELEBRITY APPRENTICE

the MAN with the GOLDEN TOUCH

"You're not just a man, you're a legend!"

THE NEW OLD NANNY SHANE'S TRAVEL SECRETS



Mariamela Pereyra

American/Argentine TV host Mariamela Pereyra is the Travel Channel's resident beach expert and has previously hosted shows for Fox, CNN and NBC. She writes for AW about her favorite beaches. Her other travel tip? "I'm obsessed with lighthouses. The Point Arena Light, 130 miles north of San Francisco, is completely magical."

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"At Rodeo Beach, it feels like you're in Lost"

Mariamela Pereyra, the Travel Channel's resident beach expert, reveals her top stretches of sand



helicopter and have gorgeous homes here — but it still feels like an off-the-grid escape to paradise. There are toucans, capuchin monkeys in the jungle, and it's amazing for snorkeling with white sand, crystal-clear water and shipwrecks off coast. There's whale watching and it's said to be Brazil's capital of sailing and wind-surfing. Favorite place to stay is DR, this super-chic resort right on beach with a kidney-shaped pool. Leave me there with a Caipirini and I'm a happy girl.

JOSÉ IGNACIO, URUGUAY
I first went to the village of José Ignacio, on Uruguay's south coast when I was hosting NBC's *Postcards from Paris*. I've never been anywhere like it. It's this beautiful little place, with beautiful palm trees, modern architecture and a pretty old lighthouse — then you'll be like, "Hi Shakira! Lionel Messi!" It's been like

RODEO BEACH, CALIFORNIA
been to beaches across America for my job — tough, huh? But nowhere look my breathy like Rodeo Beach, north of San Francisco. It's only 15 miles from the Golden Gate Bridge, in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, but those 15 miles from San Francisco feel like you're going back in time; you've been in the city, but you're totally all alone, with this glory of crashing waves on pebble beach. When I went, it felt like I was in the TV show *Lost* sitting on the cliff, looking out at sea and over to the Bay Area through the fog. There was something mystical about it. It attracts a lot of beachcombers, I pick out the gorgeous red and tan pebbles, and surfers despite water being freezing. You can hike around the adjoining to Headlands, with the waves hitting on the cliffs, nature all around, and that view. Two birds I go to guard the shores, and you get these old military sentry boxes and weird instruments around the place, which add to the mystery and beauty. I was like, "Fifteen miles ago, I was in a city." It blew me away.

ABELA, BRAZIL
Abela is an archipelago about four hours north of São Paulo, and it's got some of the most stunning beaches ever seen, on the edge of thick forests which contain more than 360 waterfalls. It attracts a mix of nature lovers and wealthy Paulistas from São Paulo, who come by

the Hampdens in the '80s, and there's a real buzz about it. You can definitely go and just be a beach bum, there are also all these exclusive, secluded beach clubs that you need to take a boat to get to. My favorite restaurant is a place called Namm, on a beach at the end of a dusty road. It's candlelit, with a bonfire on the beach, just one of the most romantic places I've ever eaten at. **American/Argentine Mariamela Pereyra has hosted shows for ESPN, NBC, CNN and Fox Sports. She blogs about healthy eating at thefuddist.com. Her series, Mariamela Best Beaches, is available at travelchannel.com.**