

Town & Country

ESTABLISHED IN 1846

TRAVELER'S NOTEBOOK

THE NEW BAL HARBOUR

FLORIDA Freshly built hotels, the increasingly chic Bal Harbour Shops, cultural initiatives to rival many cities—this is not your grandmother's Bal Harbour. The one-square-mile village is becoming the thinking person's South Beach. Here's our take:

● **7 A.M.** Order breakfast at the **Sea View Hotel** (doubles from \$165; 9909 Collins Avenue; 305-866-4441; seaview-hotel.com), a classic Floridian beach resort.

● **8 A.M.** Attend a free **yoga or Pilates class** on the beach (balharbourflorida.com), and mingle with the town's insiders.

● **9 A.M.** Take a long, long beach walk while the sun is still low. Or hop onto the free Bal Harbour shuttle to check out **Canyon Ranch Hotel & Spa**, the **Fontainebleau** hotel, and the **W South Beach** (close to the Bass Museum of Art). The bus also goes to **Lincoln Road**.

● **11 A.M.** Hit one of the highest-grossing malls per square foot in the country (9700 Collins Avenue), a lushly landscaped open-air affair with shops like **Lanvin**, **Cartier**, **Tory Burch**, and **Chanel**. The national Salon de Louis Vuitton series was launched here in June; the mall itself will be hosting events during Art Basel Miami in December.

● **1 P.M.** Order the salad at **La Goulue** (305-

865-2181; lagouluebalharbour.com) or the lobster linguine at **Carpaccio** (305-867-7777; carpacciobalharbour.com). Stephen Starr of Buddakan is also opening a Japanese restaurant in the mall this season.

● **3 P.M.** Have an extra drink. Then back to shopping—or the beach.

● **5 P.M.** Sample the mall's free **sunset activities**, such as readings and art walks; modern interpretations of Shakespeare from the Miami-based YoungArts foundation; dance by Miami City Ballet; blues, soul, and gospel by the Overtown Music Project; or edgy dance, theater, and music by Miami Light Project.

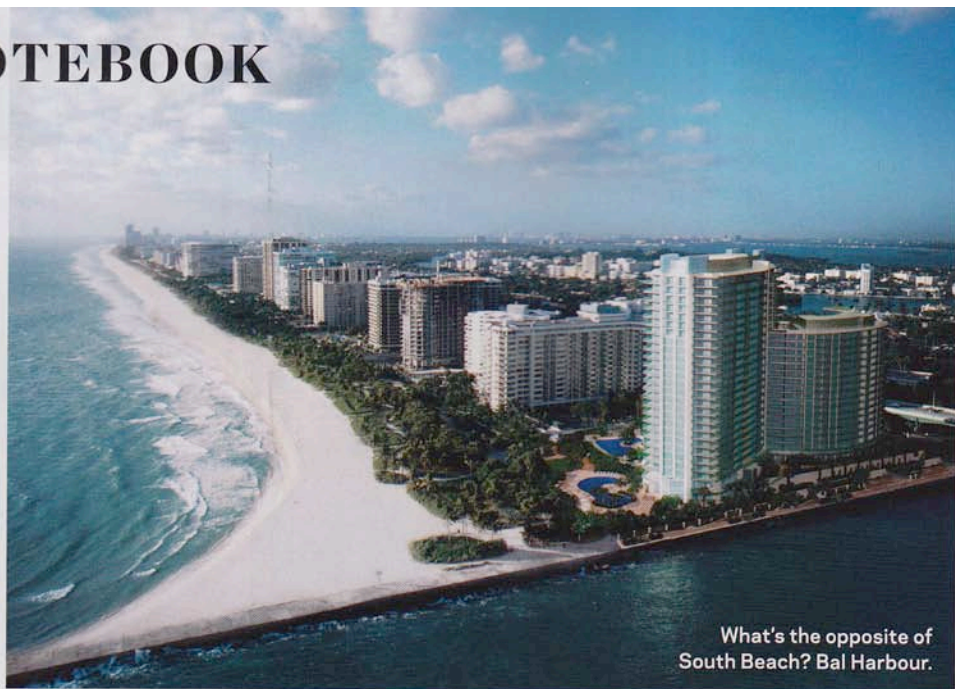
● **6 P.M.** Have a bite at **One Bal Harbour**

Resort & Spa (doubles from \$300; 10295 Collins Avenue; 305-455-5400; oneluxuryhotels.com), the newest hotel on the shore. The übercool property has a beach club designed by Hernan Arriaga, who has done interior-design work for the Hermès family. The club hosts up-and-coming bands such as the youthquake cult group Surfer Blood.

● **7 P.M.** Grab a sofa for a free **screening** on the beach. The lineup includes films from the Miami International Film Festival and the Museum of Contemporary Art's Optic Nerve contest.

● **BEDTIME** Open your hotel windows and inhale the clean ocean air.

TOM AUSTIN



What's the opposite of South Beach? Bal Harbour.