



DAUFUSKIE ISLAND, SOUTH CAROLINA

## THE SOUTH'S CAR-FREE PARADISE

WITH NO BRIDGE to Daufuskie, a 10-square-mile barrier island 30 minutes by ferry from Hilton Head, there's hardly a car [or grocery store] to be found here. But Low-country charm is everywhere: fresh oysters and shrimp at down-home seafood joints, fishing and paddling in back bays, and horseback riding on white-sand beaches, all with hardly any crowds. You can rent a beach cruiser to explore Spanish moss-covered roads or just enjoy a sundowner cocktail in your room overlooking the 1873 lighthouse at Haig Point, a resort community that's home to the historic Strachan Mansion. The pace of life will never feel more relaxing. —BLANE BACHELOR



BURGDORF HOT SPRINGS, IDAHO

## Winter's Most Inviting Backcountry Hot Spring

IDAHO IS SAID TO BE HOME to more hot springs per square mile than any place outside Iceland. And even with all of the options, Burgdorf Hot Springs stands apart, especially in winter, when getting there requires a 20-mile snowmobiling tour through the Salmon River Mountains. At the site,

110-degree water gushes out at 150 gallons per minute into the pebble-lined pools. "There's nothing like the tingle that covers your body after a soak, then a jump into the snowbank," says local Devin Hawkins. Afterward, you can fill up for the ride back with the cafe's handcrafted pizzas. —T.W.

NIEKHU MOUNTAIN VILLA, SWEDEN

## BEST ARCTIC POWDER RUNS

COME SUMMER, there are few ski destinations better equipped to make the most of mild temps and lingering snow than Niehku Mountain Villa. From its doorstep on the Swedish-Norwegian border, its helicopters can access 60 mountain peaks for backcountry runs, or you can head over to ski tour along Norway's fjords. The only other tracks you'll encounter belong to Sami herdsman and their reindeer. "The vast landscape in Swedish Lapland is like Europe's

last wilderness," says Jossi Lindblom, co-owner of Niehku. Plus, you can adventure 24/7 under the midnight sun. But forewarning: It's nearly impossible to pull yourself away from the fireside lounge after you've finished one of the lodge's tundra-to-table meals, paired with wines from a 500-bottle cellar. —JEN MURPHY



## Best Beachside Tapas Bar

AXTARRE TABERNA, SPAIN

Surfers know the Basque coastline thanks to the left-hand barrel at Mundaka. Down the beach, in Urdaibai, is also one of Spain's best tapas bars, Axtarre Taberna, always busy with local surfers in flip-flops and old legends in berets. *Pintxos* (Basque tapas) laden with goat cheese cover the bar top, and *zuritos*, the region's famous quarter-pint beers, flow freely. Better yet: Everything is on the honor system. You simply grab a dish or two and let the bartender know your tally when it's time to hit the waves. —TERRY WARD

LIGHTHOUSE: JEFFREY M. HARRIS; HELICOPTER: MATTIAS PERSSONSON; COURTESY OF DAUFUSKIE ISLAND