

AFAR

AFAR EXPANDS STAFF AND ADDS NEW HIRES

Kicking off 2017 with an expansion of key personnel after record setting 2016

February 1, 2017 (New York and San Francisco) – With a strong focus on digital growth, travel’s most critically acclaimed media brand, AFAR, has added key hires in the first few weeks of 2017.

On the editorial side, Arabella Bowen joins as Digital Executive Editor. Bowen previously served as Vice President and Editor in Chief of *Fodor’s Travel* and Vice President of Editorial for *Sherman’s Travel*. At AFAR, Bowen will head up digital content strategy.

Ashlea Halpern has joined AFAR as Editor at Large. Halpern has been traveling the world for more than two years. Prior to that, she served as Special Projects Editor for *Bon Appétit*, Strategist Editor at *New York* magazine, and Senior Editor at *Time Out New York*.

In addition, AFAR hired Ann Shields as Managing Editor to work on custom content and licensing projects. Prior to AFAR, Ann was Senior Digital Editor at *Travel + Leisure*.

Julia Cosgrove, VP and Editor in Chief, says, “I am thrilled to be adding such seasoned pros to our team. They know travel and media inside out, and they will offer up great insight and expertise to help us serve our audience even more effectively.”

On the sales and marketing side, Christina Castro joins as AFAR’s Events Director. Christina will be overseeing events including AFAR Conversations, AFAR’s Travel Advisory Council, Evenings AFAR, and the many custom events produced by AFAR. Christina most recently worked at *Elite Traveler* where she served as Marketing and Events Director.

In addition, Sara Atkin joins AFAR as Sales Planner. Sara will be supporting key salespeople and comes to AFAR from *Billboard* and *Hollywood Reporter*.

When asked about the significance of these hires, AFAR’s CEO, Greg Sullivan commented, “In a time when major media companies are restructuring, we are bullish because of our record setting 2016 combined with a 100% focus on inspiring, guiding and enabling the most discerning travelers.”

About AFAR Media:

[AFAR Media](#) is dedicated to inspiring and enabling deeper, richer, and more fulfilling travel experiences. AFAR launched as a print travel magazine at the height of the recession in 2009 to approach travel in a way that no other media publication was doing and has grown into the most critically acclaimed multiplatform travel media company, with the most traveled and most influential audience. Based in New York and San Francisco, AFAR’s diverse portfolio of platforms includes: **AFAR** magazine; **AFAR.com**; **Learning AFAR**, a non-profit program that introduces the importance of travel to high school students; the **AFAR Travel Guide** mobile app; and **AFAR Experiences**, an immersive travel event series.