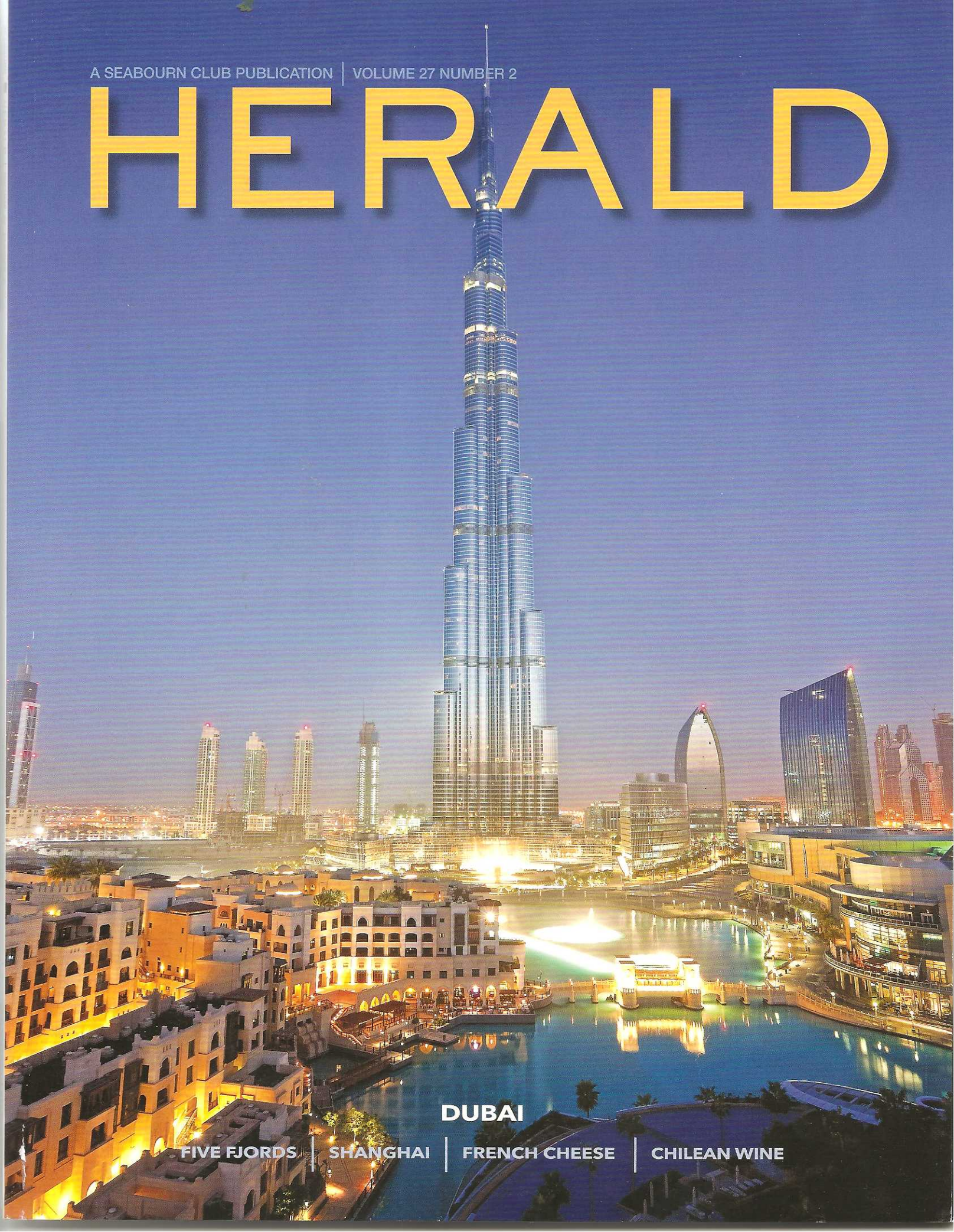


A SEABOURN CLUB PUBLICATION | VOLUME 27 NUMBER 2

HERALD



DUBAI

FIVE FJORDS

SHANGHAI

FRENCH CHEESE

CHILEAN WINE

CONTRIBUTORS

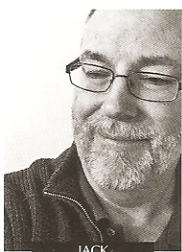
SUSY ATKINS is the wine columnist for the *Sunday Telegraph* newspaper, and wine editor of the UK's *Delicious* magazine. She appears regularly on BBC1's *Saturday Kitchen* show and has published several popular books on wine.



TERRY ELWARD is a writer traveling the world in search of the densest jungle and the finest Champagne, who loves ancient ruins, supports eco-friendly tourism and is an avid English enthusiast. A member of the International Food, Wine and Travel Writers Association, her work has appeared in publications such as *International Living*, *Time Out Istanbul*, *Taste & Travel Magazine*, and on her blog, remarkabletravels.com.



For JACK FEERICK, freelance writing is a lifelong education. "I've never been an expert on anything before writing about it," he says. "The fun of it is in the research. I'm always in learning something new." He has written for *Better Homes & Gardens*, *The Saturday Evening Post*, and *mental_floss*, along with poetry, fiction, and comics for a variety of small presses. He lives and works in western New York with his family; his Scotch of preference is Auchentoshan 12-Year-Old — if you're buying.



STEPHEN GRASSO is a freelance writer and world traveler currently based in Hialeah, Florida, previously from London, UK, and originally from Newcastle. He writes about music, film and culture, and is working on his first novel.



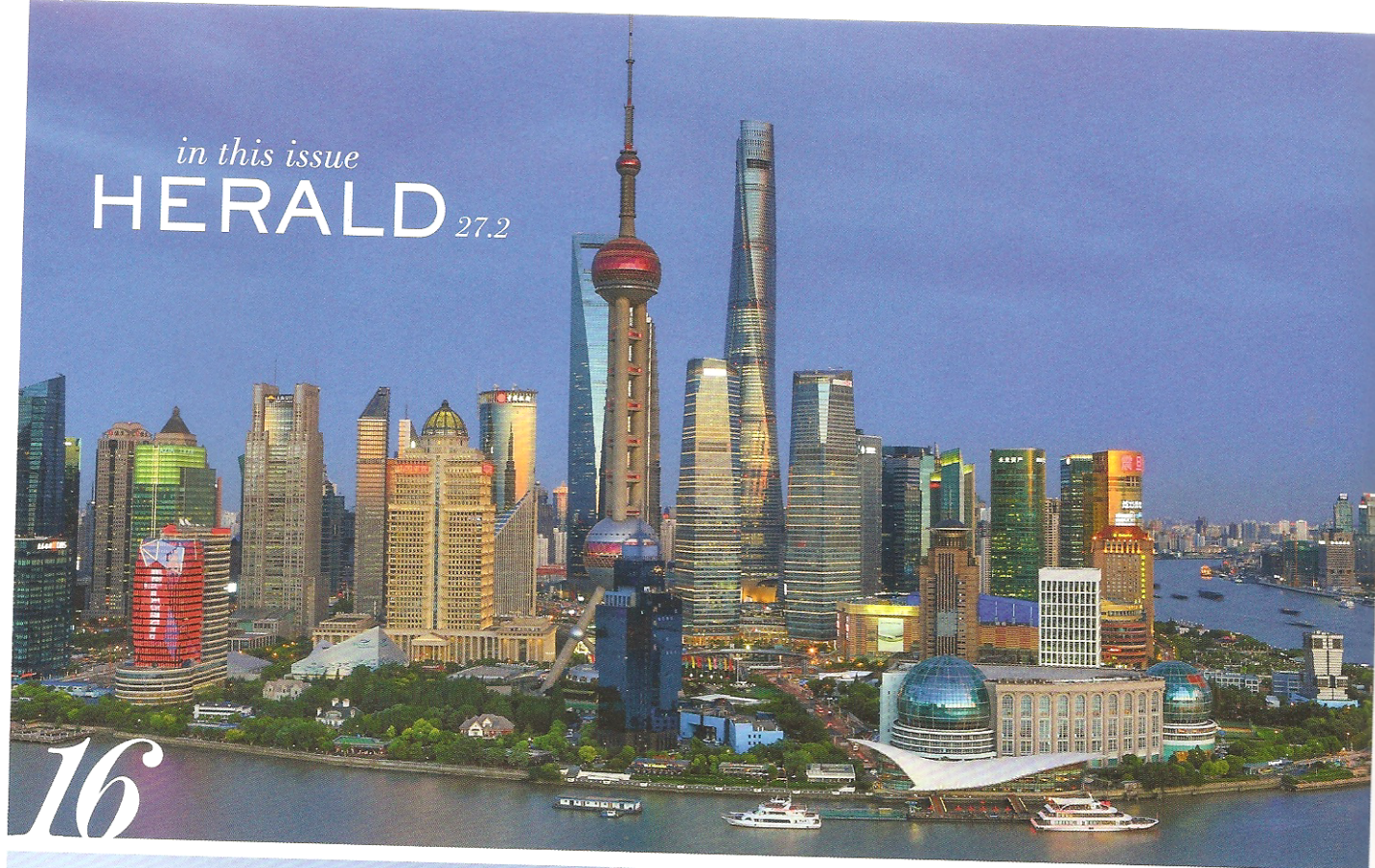
Based in New York City, HEATHER MIKESELL has been covering the spa industry for more than 10 years as executive editor of *American Spa* magazine. When she's not enjoying champagne facials, caviar creams and other pampering perks of her profession, she's likely to be found defying State Department warnings in search of adventure. She has enjoyed cruising to exotic destinations such as the Red Sea and Antarctica.



A former TV reporter, Houston-based RICHARD VARR has published stories and photos in *USA TODAY*, *AOL Travel*, the *Dallas Morning News*, *Porthole Cruise Magazine*, *Islands*, *Sydney Morning Herald*, *Good Sam Club's Highways* and *AAA's Home & Away*. Richard researched and wrote the Dorling Kindersley *Eyewitness Travel Guide to Philadelphia & The Pennsylvania Dutch Country*.



in this issue
HERALD 27.2



16



28



34

FEATURES

16 SHANGHAI'S DUELING SKYLINES

The Bund is the waterfront promenade of China's "city over the sea" – and a window revealing two very different worlds.
By Richard Varr

22 #THEROCKNEANDERTHALS

A mysterious marking like a modern-day hashtag found in Gibraltar's caves is challenging our ideas about Neanderthal man.
By Stephen Grasso

28 AROUND THE WORLD IN FIVE FJORDS (AND NONE OF THEM NORWEGIAN!)

Scandinavia hasn't cornered the market on wondrous waterways. Here are some of the most dramatic inlets anywhere.
By Jack Feerick

34 A PERFECT DAY IN DUBAI

There's plenty of once-in-a-lifetime experiences in the United Arab Emirates' ultimate city.
By Terry Elward



Pearl Tower

SHANGHAI'S DUELING SKYLINES



*The Bund is the waterfront promenade of China's
"city over the sea" – and a window
revealing two very different worlds.*

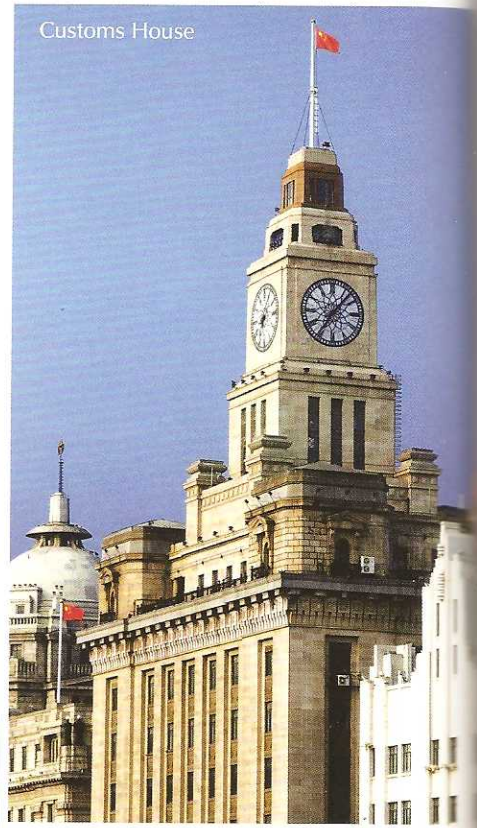
BY RICHARD VARR

All it takes is a quick turn of the head to juxtapose 100 years of history.

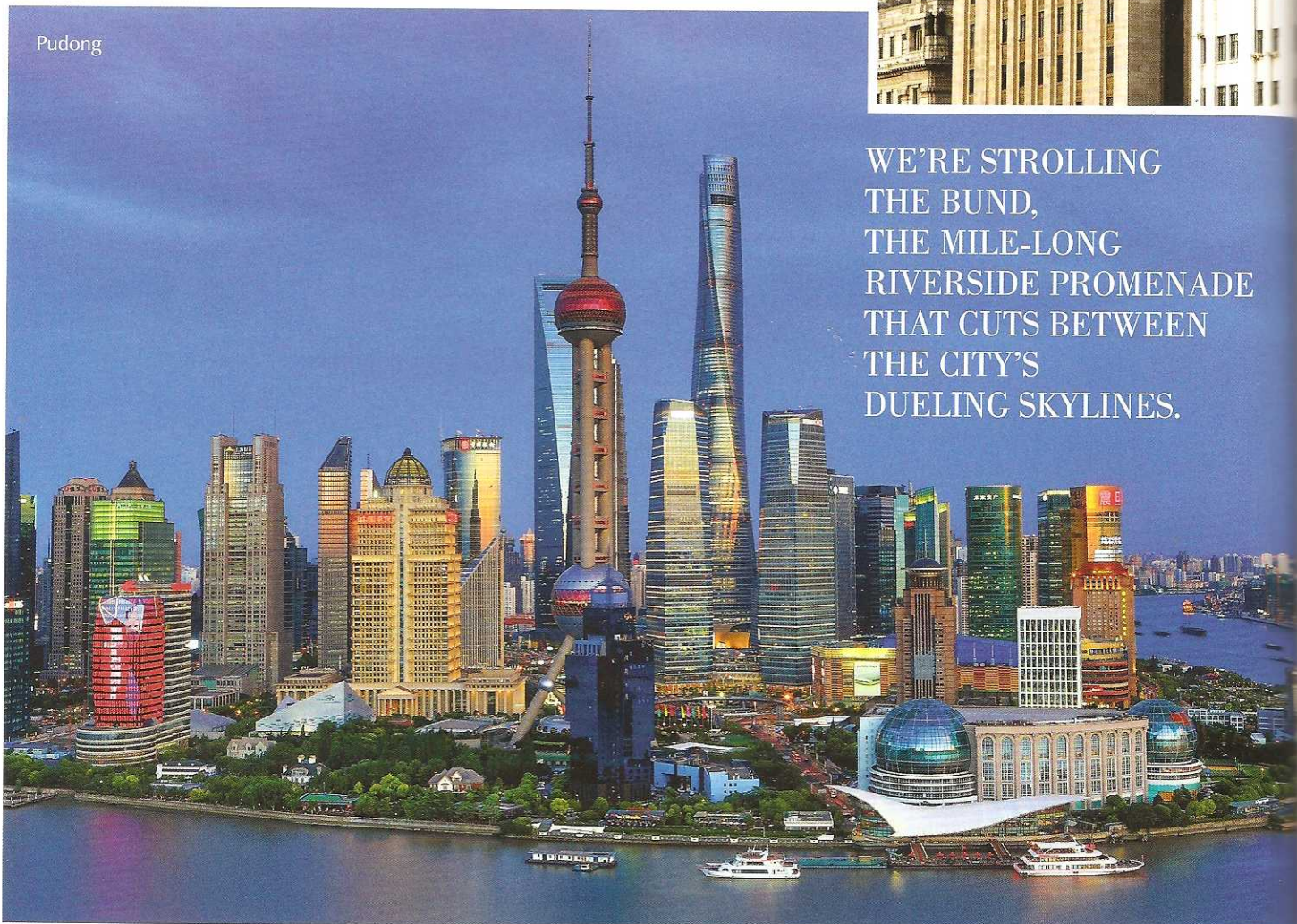
On this side of the Huangpu River sit the stately colonial buildings from the early 20th century — the old Customs House with its flagpole-topped clock tower, the domes and columns of the bank buildings and the grandiose art deco Peace Hotel. On the other side, the exact opposite — a modern world-class megalopolis with soaring steel and glass towers, all built within the last few decades. The Pudong business district's 21st-century cityscape

is dominated by the spheres and struts of the 1,535-foot Oriental Pearl TV Tower and the 2,073 foot-high, 128-story Shanghai Tower, the world's second-tallest building, which was built in 2015.

“From here we see both old and new Shanghai,” hollers tour guide Qiao Yong Gang amid the throngs of people whose chatter and commotion add to the thrill of beholding this city's signature landmarks for the first time. We're strolling the Bund, the mile-long riverside promenade that cuts between the city's dueling skylines. The walkway brings to mind what La Rambla is to Barcelona, what Broadway is to New York or what Champs-Élysées is to Paris.



WE'RE STROLLING THE BUND, THE MILE-LONG RIVERSIDE PROMENADE THAT CUTS BETWEEN THE CITY'S DUELING SKYLINES.



A LIVING AVENUE

After two days of heavy rains, this is actually my first clear view of Pudong — despite the Shanghai Tower's curving apex still flirting with stubborn cloud cover. The improving weather has brought out crowds whose mission, it seems, is to pose for photos against the dramatic backdrop — families with babbling children, teenage girls with platform shoes and couples snuggling closely together, all tapping their smart phones.

My quest this morning is to walk the entire Bund, discovering some of the 50 or so century-old buildings in a sampler of architectural styles — neoclassical, Renaissance and Baroque revival. I'll explore landmarks including the Shanghai Bull — a symbol of China's financial prosperity similar to the statue on Wall Street — as well as the Pudong's cluster of super-tall skyscrapers: Shanghai Tower, the 88-story Jin Mao Tower — a silver, pagoda-like pinnacle that was once the tallest building in China — and the 101-story Shanghai World Financial Center, spectacularly framed behind the curving river's moored tugboats and slow parade of barges.

But first, Qiao points to the massive antenna-like structure across the river. "The TV Tower is the symbol of new Shanghai," he says. The tower incorporates two giant spheres, the upper one with a rotating restaurant and observation decks offering splendid city views, and the lower one containing a futuristic "space city." Another set of colossal twin globes top the nearby International Convention Center. When we find the precise point along the Bund where the spheres appear to cluster side by side, Qiao tells me the view brings to mind a line from a famous Tang Dynasty poem: "The big pearls, small pearls drop on the jade plate from heaven."

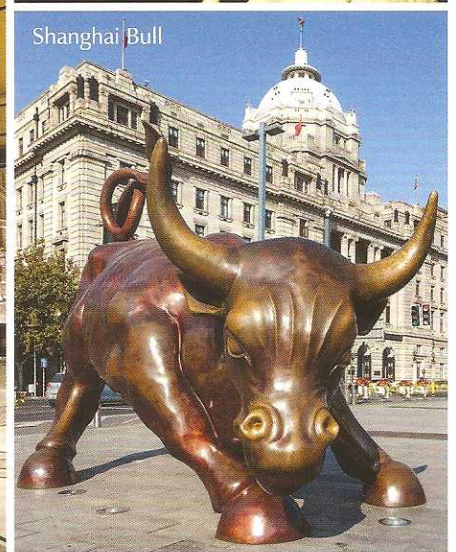
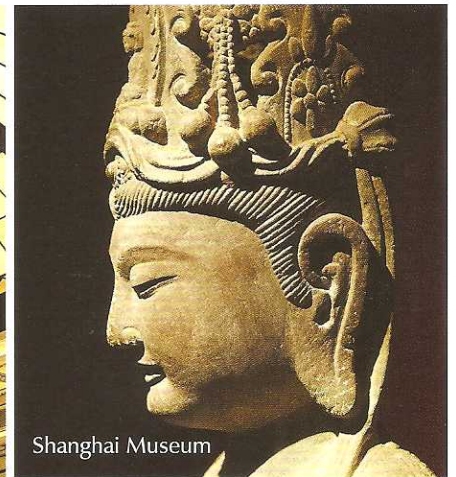
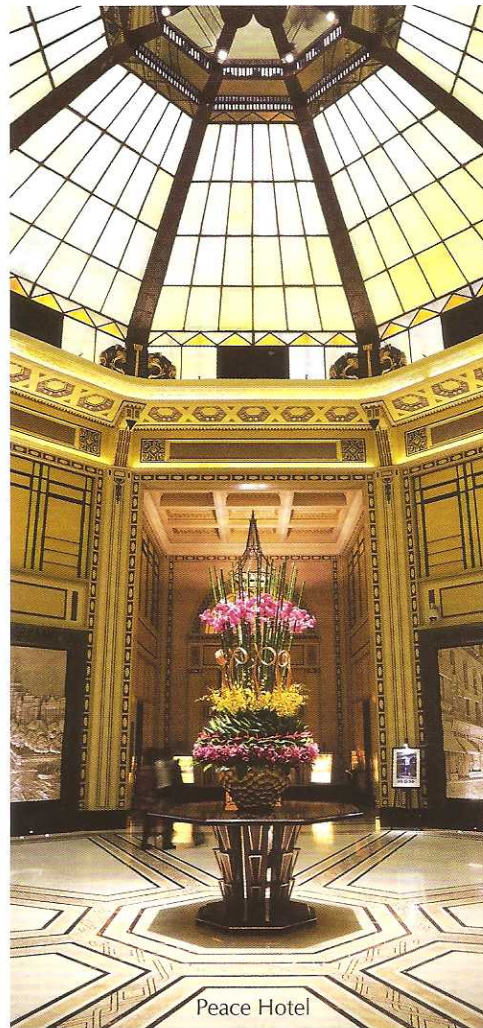
TRACES OF EUROPE

Every quarter-hour, chimes from the clock tower of the British-style Customs House ring out over the Bund. The 1927 building still operates as a customs house today. The Bund's early-20th-century buildings still house mostly banks and businesses, while shops and restaurants occupy others.

Until the mid 19th century, Shanghai was only a riverside farming village and trading post. Then, British, French, Japanese and American traders set up outpost communities known as "concessions." Within these, each of the colonial powers constructed the Bund's buildings for their offices, banks and trading houses. Concessions ended with the Communist

victory, but the cosmopolitan and international feel has returned to Shanghai once more. "If you were here 30 or 40 years ago and walked the streets, they'd say, 'You're a foreigner.' They didn't often see any," explains Qiao. "But today, no one cares where you're from. We have a lot of people from the West who now live here, who live with the Chinese people. And some speak very good Mandarin."

We stop in the glamorous Peace Hotel, its jazz bar now one of the city's most popular. Lining lobby walls are canvasses with metal artwork highlighting the Bund of yesteryear. One is a carving of a treed shoreline and boats along the river. "The boats were for shipping and they all stopped here," says Qiao.



BRISK TRADING

Peace Hotel sits on Nanjing Road, which leads to one of Shanghai's prominent pedestrian shopping streets. Along storefronts and outdoor cafés, saleswomen shout out the latest bargains through the shrill of amplified microphones. I see vendors hawking toys. A clanking tourist tram rings its bells to safely snake through the crowd. It's where women stretch to tai chi early in the morning and where pulsing neon lights illuminate the evening bustle, streaking across storefronts and façades at night.

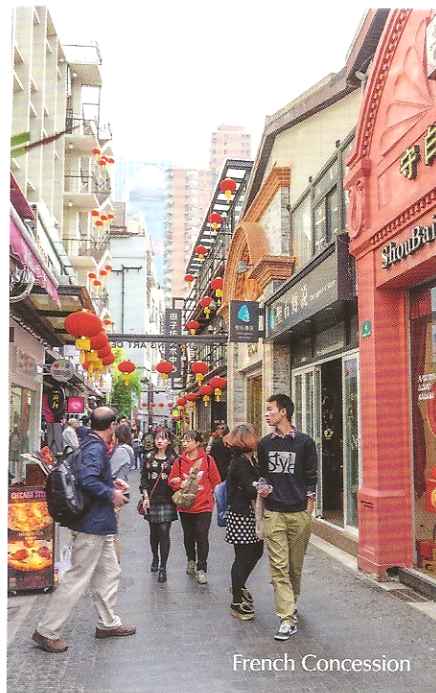
The street is home to shopping plazas including the multistory Shanghai No. 1 Department Store. "Nanjing Road became very famous about 100 years ago," says Qiao. "Shanghai was the place that locals called the 'Eastern Paris,' leading fashion in Asia in the 1920s. At that time, Hong Kong was nothing, only a fishing village."

Further along the pedestrian street, I reach People's Park, where neatly trimmed flowerbeds skirt walkways through the grass. I hear the roar of a rollercoaster in the nearby amusement park.

WINDOWS ON THE PAST

A walk through the park to People's Square leads to the renowned Shanghai Museum with cultural relics spanning five millennia. The collection includes stone sculptures, intricate jade and ceramic figurines and Chinese paintings of ink delicately brushed on silk and paper. I found the polychrome glazed warrior figurines from the Tang Dynasty (A.D. 618-907) most impressive, some with a sheen like they were created just yesterday.

Also in the city is the Shanghai Jewish Refugees Museum, built around the



former Ohel Moshe Synagogue, a place of worship for Jewish Russian immigrants since 1907. Today, the museum shows how more than 20,000 Jews escaping the Holocaust found peaceful refuge in Shanghai during World War II.

Two of the most picturesque destinations within Shanghai show off different sides of the city's long legacy. From China's traditional past comes Yu Gardens – with a maze of pathways and bridges skirting ponds around Chinese-style pavilions –

and Yu Gardens Bazaar – where shops sell everything from laughing Buddhas and lamps to jade figurines, and vendors hawking watches and jewelry give the best hagglers a spirited challenge. The city's Western heritage lives on in the French Concession, a complex of brick buildings and narrow alleyways that was a self-contained French settlement for nearly 100 years from the mid-19th to mid-20th centuries. It's now a popular tourist spot with upscale restaurants, cafés, bars and shops within scenic courtyards.

My exploring leads me back to the riverside pedestrian thoroughfare. I step back onto the Bund in the evening, when the 20th-century building façades are emblazoned with spotlights and bathed in a golden glow. Catching my eye are the Customs House's illuminated clock tower and the green tint of the Peace Hotel's pyramid-shaped pinnacle. Across the river, similar spotlights brighten Pudong's TV tower while multicolored lights zigzag across the glass towers — all adding to the splendor of Shanghai's dueling skylines.



SEABOURN SOJOURN CALLS ON SHANGHAI DURING THE 21-DAY HONG KONG TO KOBE VOYAGE ON APRIL 24, 2018.