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Warner Bros. Studio Tour London expands Making of Harry Potter

By Jeanne Cooper

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New Zealand's Whanganui National Park is home to the Bridge to Nowhere, a remnant of a long-abandoned settlement in a lush valley. Photo: Chris McLennan, Tourism New Zealand



New attraction

London: Climb aboard the Hogwarts Express vintage steam engine at the Warner Bros. Studio Tour London's expanded Making of Harry Potter section, opening Thursday. The

new permanent exhibition also features a re-creation of the film series' Platform 9^{3/4}.

www.wbstudiotour.co.uk.

Wildlife

South Africa: The private Sabi Sabi Game Reserve next to Kruger National Park brims with elephants, white rhino, leopards, zebras, lions and many more species. Spot them on custom safaris with Extraordinary Journeys that include three nights at the reserve and four nights in Cape Town, plus transfers and most meals, from \$2,810. www.ejafrika.com.

New hotel

Chicago: In the heart of downtown, the 14-story, 400-room Loews Hotel Chicago offers sweeping vistas as well as rooftop lounge, indoor lap pool and Argentine steak house run by Jose Garces. From \$133. www.loewshotels.com/chicago-downtown.

New tours

Bolivia: Stay high and very dry in the Andes on Say Hueque's new tours of the Uyuni salt flat (pictured) — at 4,086 square miles, the world's largest — and Chile's Atacama Desert, the world's driest. Rates start at \$710 for six days, with Argentina extensions available. www.sayhueque.com.


Landmark

New Zealand: The Bridge to Nowhere, a relic of a settlement abandoned in 1942 and overgrown by forest, provides views of a hidden valley in Whanganui National Park. Reach it via a jet boat ride on the Whanganui River or by hiking or mountain biking the Mangapurua Track from Whakahoro. www.tourismnewzealand.com.

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