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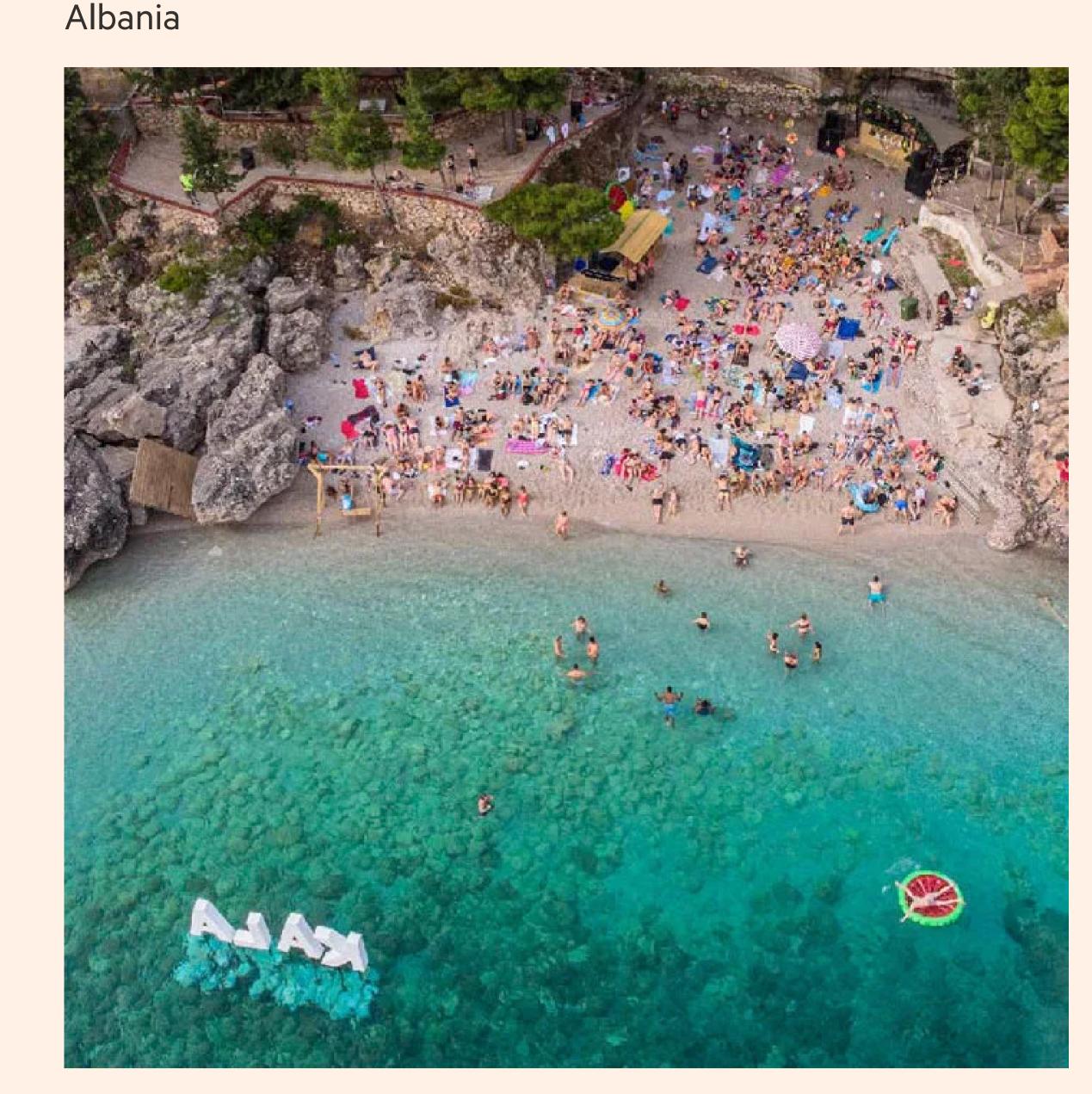
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Five destinations to watch – from the Faroe Islands to Pakistan

Festivals and new airline routes put these destinations on the map

Katie Gatens NOVEMBER 8 2019



ships, the beaches of Albania — less than a five-hour drive away — remain blissfully quiet. But perhaps not for long. The stigma around what was once the Balkans' most dangerous country is lifting and tourist numbers were up 20 per cent this year. Newcomer music festival Kala in the coastal town of Dhërmi is what Croatia felt like before the coast got choked with beach clubs. Festival goers should soon find it easier to get there, thanks to a new airport planned for nearby Vlorë. Georgia

While Dubrovnik has become so overrun that it has unveiled plans to tax cruise



hipster hostels, visa-free travel for EU nationals since 2017 and last year's legalisation of marijuana have all helped Georgia hit record visitor numbers (8.7m last year). Access is getting easier too: Ryanair is launching three new routes to the country this month and a fourth next summer; Wizz Air is adding around 60,000 seats on routes to Kutaisi next year. Faroe Islands

The underground electronic music scene in Tbilisi has already led to some

dubbing it "the new Berlin". Its graffiti-daubed warehouses converted into

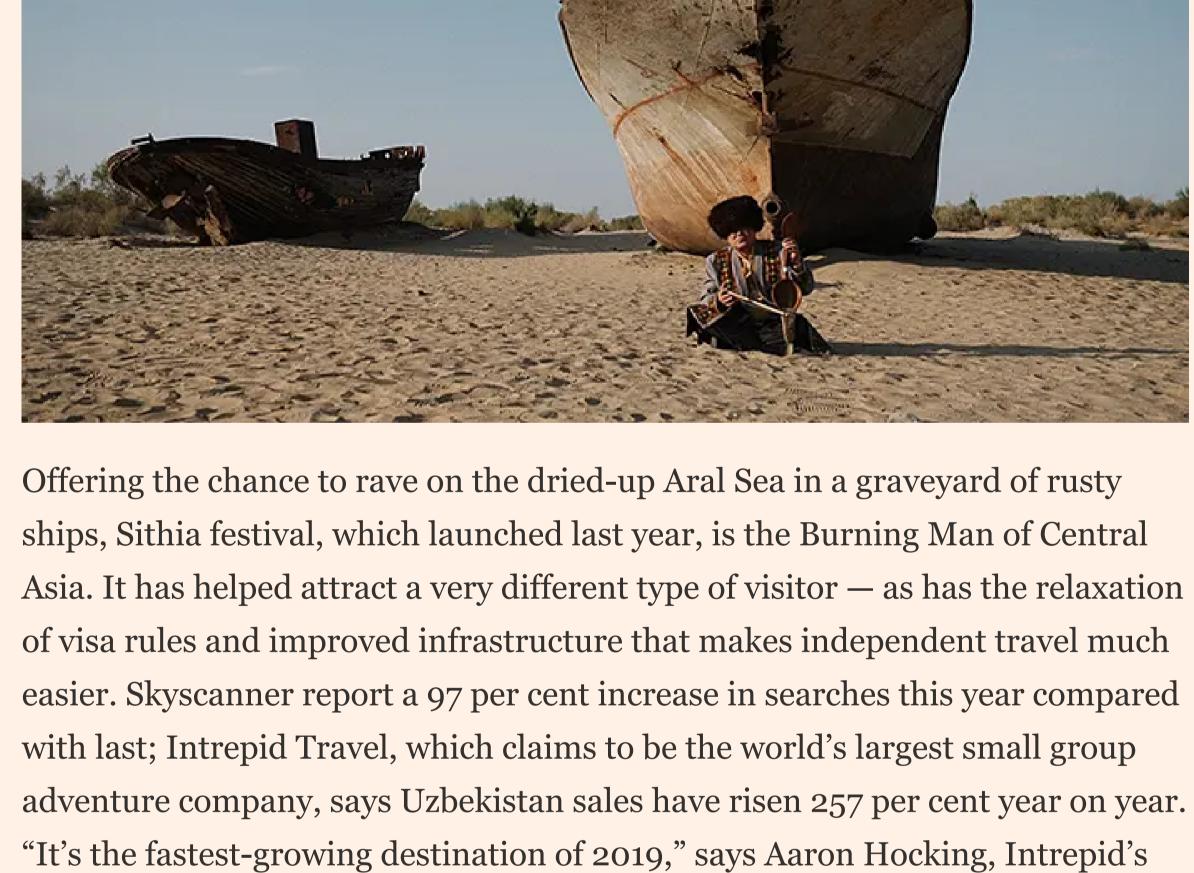
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cutesy alternative to Google Street View with cameras strapped to the back of

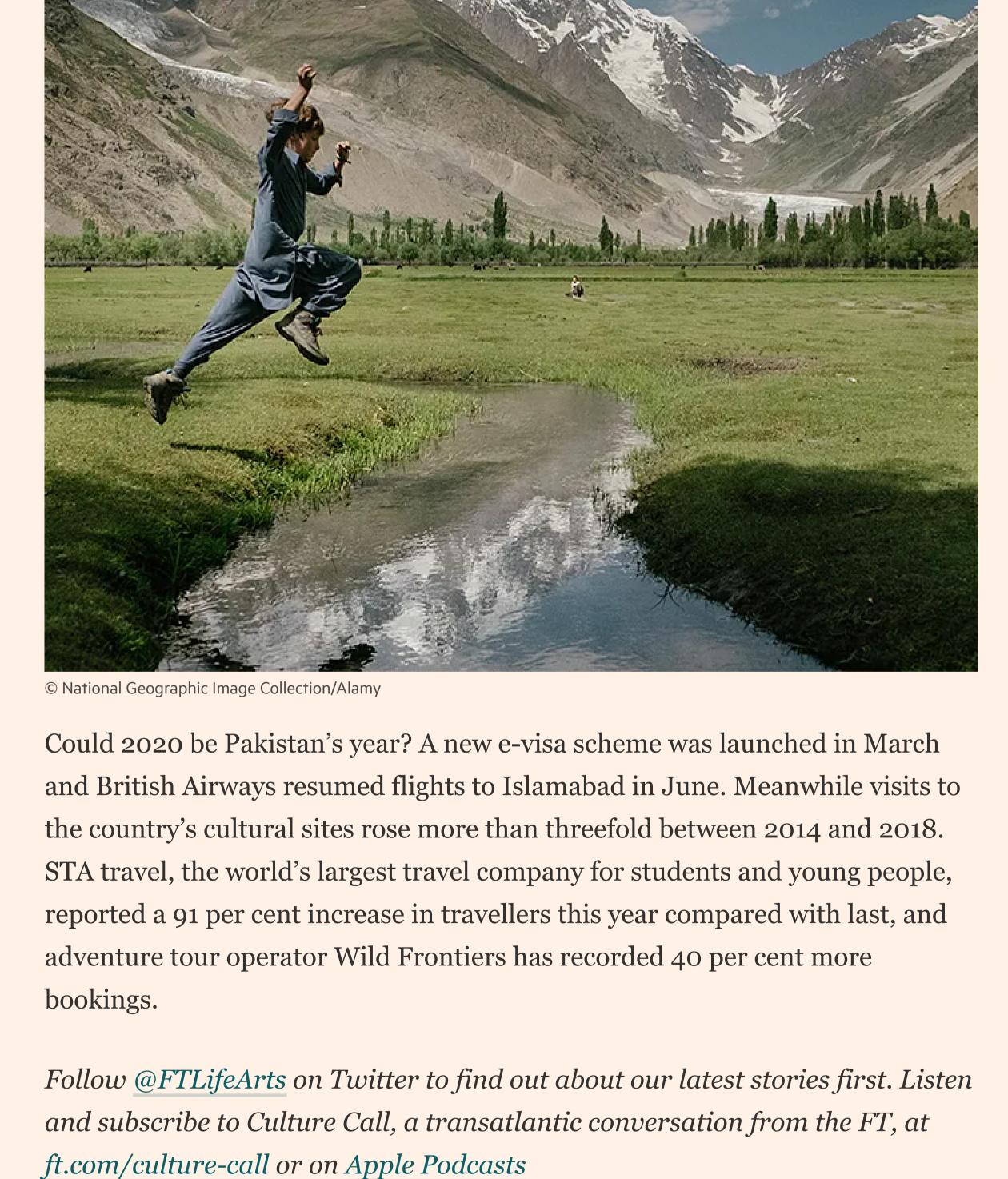
sheep, and "Faroe Islands translate" in which islanders translate phrases via

video message. The latest stunt, in April, saw the islands "closed for maintenance" for a weekend, with volunteers invited to come to help with conservation projects. The result has been an increase in visitors (with tourist nights up 31 per cent between 2014 and 2018) — and a change in demographics. "Our visitors' age group has certainly fallen," says Súsanna Sørensen of Visit Faroe Islands. Uzbekistan

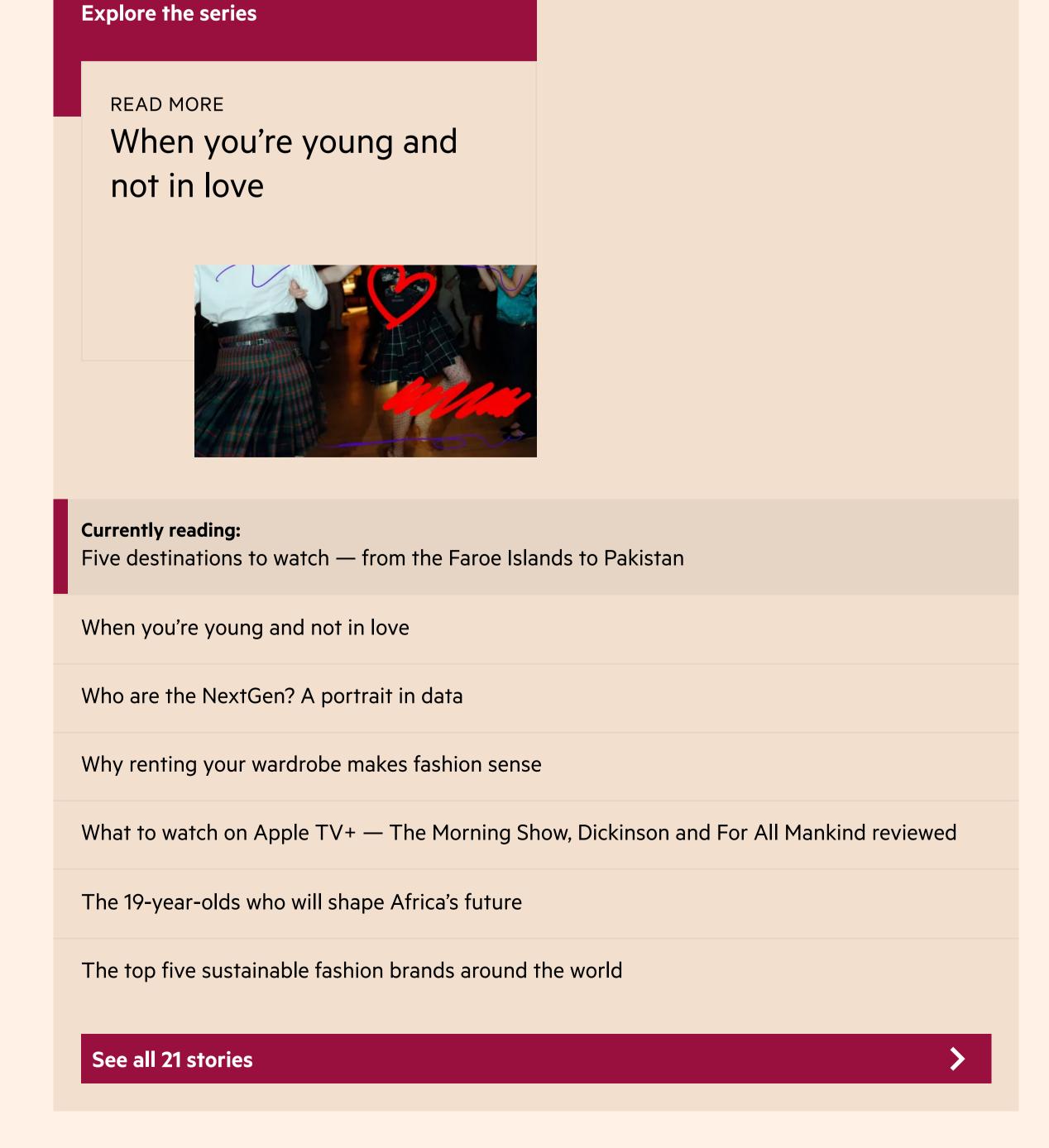


Pakistan

commercial director.



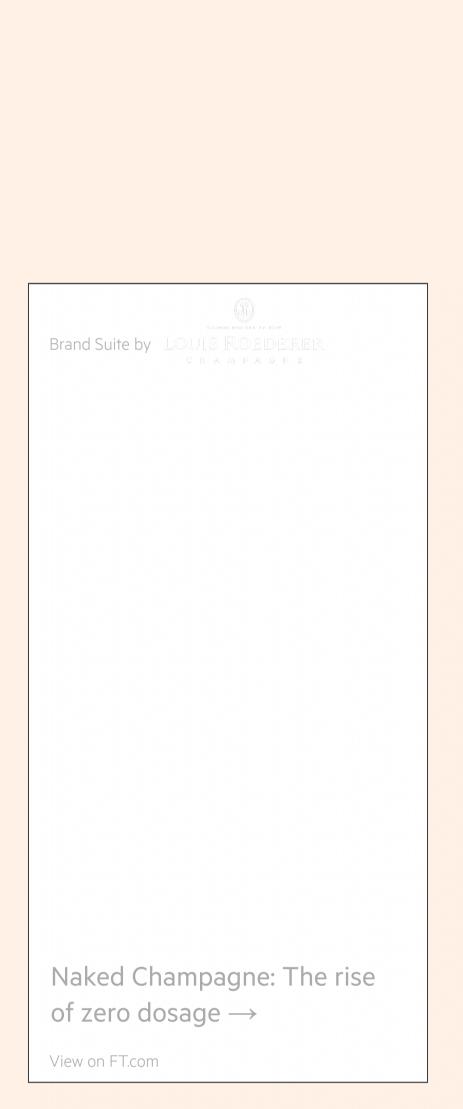
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