

Forbes

Samantha Brown Of PBS Celebrates 25 Years Of Travel TV

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Samantha Brown, host of [Samantha Brown's Places to Love](#) on PBS, is one of the most recognizable and trusted faces of travel on PBS. The two-time Emmy-award-winning series debuts its 8th season on January 3, 2025, which coincides with Brown's 25th Anniversary as a TV personality and a pioneer in travel. During that quarter of a century, Brown has hosted 14 TV series and created an astonishing 338 episodes of television, traveling over 2.5 million miles across 65 countries in the bargain. It's her smart, lively and inquisitive on-air personality that has made her one of PBS's favorites. Yet she says she's just as curious and excited as she was when she began.

“Yes, even more so, and that’s not to be a Pollyanna about it at all,” Brown said in a recent phone interview from her Brooklyn home. “You know, at the beginning of my career, I always felt I had to temper my wonderment because that could be perceived as naïve or unworldly. I was just scared because I was on camera and didn’t want to sound or look like an idiot. But now I just let it loose because I have age and experience on my side. So now, when I ask a question, I’m just as curious. I just get to show it more.”



Her new season brings viewers with her to places as disparate as Costa Rica, South Dakota, New Orleans, North Carolina, Germany, and Route 66, among other places.

In New Orleans, her mandate was “Nothing in the French Quarter,” so she looked for hidden gems outside the popular tourist area, including the National World War II Museum and cycling the Tammany Trace. In an episode devoted to “The Crystal Coast of North Carolina,” Brown encounters the wild horses of Shackleford Banks, visits Beaufort’s boat-builders, and samples oysters on Harkers Island.