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Completed in 1932, Sydney Harbor Bridge leads the way into the glittering modern downtown of Australia's largest city. VINCENT LAFORET

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Double Vision

Eight seconds is all it takes to create astounding images that capture the energy of the world's most vibrant cities from more than one angle. PHOTOGRAPHS BY NICOLAS RUEL



THE BIG IDE

To Live Together, We Must Make Compromises

Urban life inevitably involves trade-offs. We may reap huge benefits in return for suffering enormous disadvantages when we choose between issues such as individual freedom and community interests, and between social ties and anonymity.

BY JARED DIAMOND



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Smart (Kansas) City Skiing Copenhagen Robots and Drones



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Cities of the Future

What should cities be like in 2050 when an estimated 6.7 billion people live in them? We asked the architectural and city planning firm SOM to imagine those urban centers; the group created a vision based on 10 principles. Among them: putting ecology first; building an economy that supports the best use of resources; and promoting culture and livability.



FEATUR



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Walking Tokyo

Tokyo is the world's most populous metropolis. It's also one of the wealthiest, safest, cleanest, and most creative—despite being partly destroyed and rebooted twice in the past hundred years. The best way to understand this modern megacity is on foot.
BY NEIL SHEA PHOTOGRAPHS BY DAVID GUTTENFELDER P. 38

Rethinking Communities

What if cities could be built to benefit the environment, residents' fitness, and social connection? City planners foresee dense, walkable, mixed-use communities linked by transit systems, curbing reliance on cars and helping clear the air.

BY ROBERT KUNZIG PHOTOGRAPHS BY ANDREW MOORE

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Wherever there are people there are rats, thriving on our trash. BY EMMA MARRIS *PHOTOS BY CHARLIE HAMILTON JAMES

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