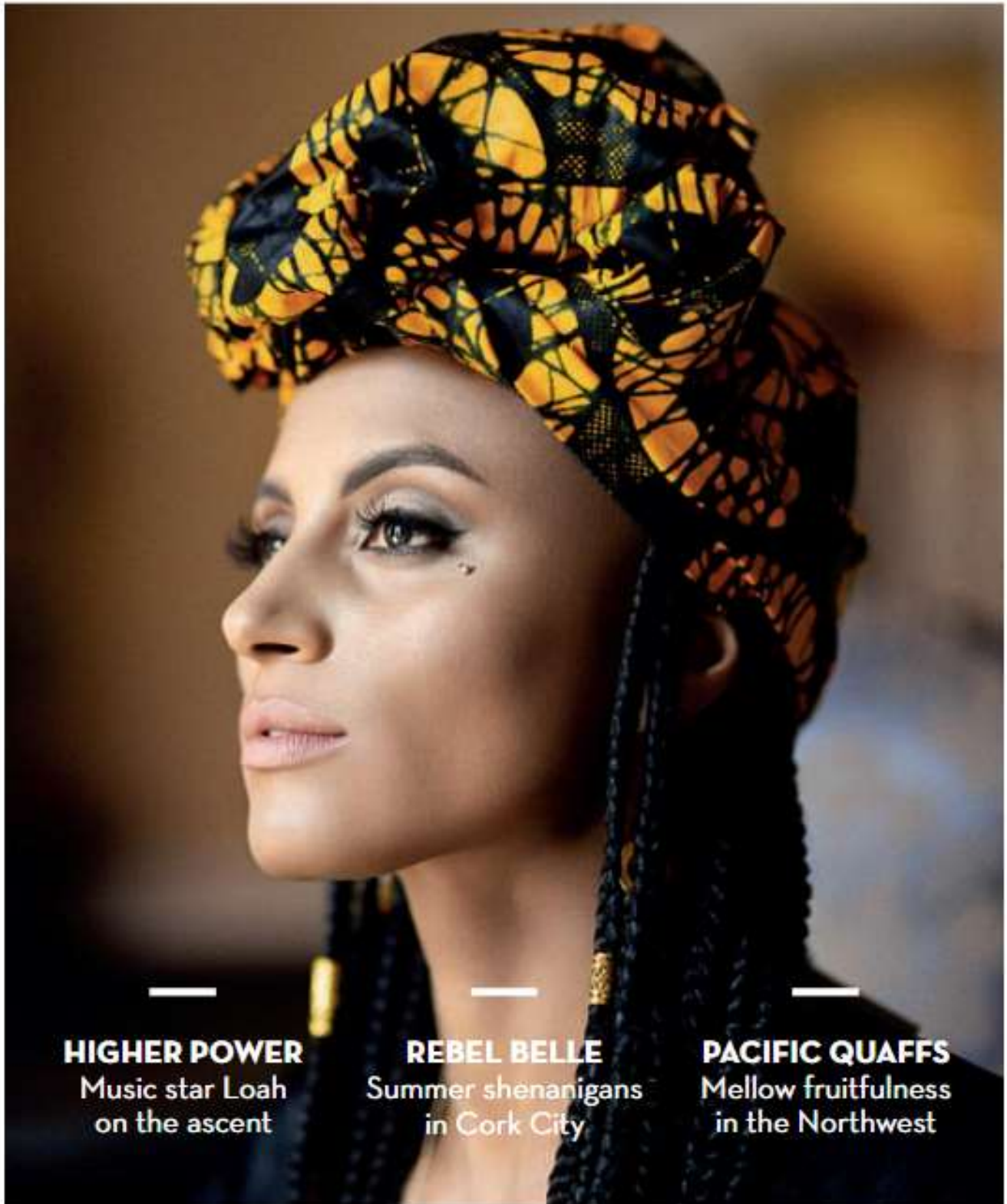


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HIGHER POWER
Music star Loah
on the ascent

REBEL BELLE
Summer shenanigans
in Cork City

PACIFIC QUAFFS
Mellow fruitfulness
in the Northwest

PACIFIC LIBATIONS

Lift a tchotchke to the innovative beverage scene of Seattle,
Washington State and the greater Pacific Northwest.

WORDS BY JESS LADDON
PHOTOGRAPHS BY DAN LUGAN

TRAVEL ESSENTIALS



SLEEPING IN SEATTLE

PAN-PURPOSE It's hard to appeal to both business travellers and families.

Pan Pacific Seattle lays on thoughtful extras such as Seattle-centric colouring books to prime little ones for short strolls to the Space Needle, Aquarium and Great Wheel, while execs appreciate the complimentary Wi-Fi and modern business centre. Rooms from \$295. (2125 Terry Ave, +1 206 264 8111; panpacificseattle.com)

SWISH With complimentary in-house wine tastings, hotel bikes for pedal-happy guests and Urban Wine Tasting maps of easily accessed city tasting rooms, **Kimpton Hotel Vintage Seattle** makes a superb Downtown base for wine lovers.

The in-house Tullio Ristorante brings northern Italian flair to Pacific Northwest flavours. Rooms from \$244. (1100 Fifth Avenue, +1 206 624 8000; hotelvintage-seattle.com)

BELLTOWN BELLE With its indoor heated swimming pool, in-house Margaux Brasserie serving from breakfast until cocktail o'clock and many Seattle attractions within easy walking distance, Belltown's **Warwick Seattle** gives visitors lots of reasons to stay local – while a monorail station two blocks away broadens horizons. Rooms from \$199. (401 Lenora St, +1 206 443 4300; warwickhotels.com)

EAT

FARM-TO-FORK CHIC Seattle native Scott Rose met chef Deborah Taylor while working in Manhattan's restaurant scene; the couple chose Port Townsend to set up **Finistère**, their clean-lined restaurant where Taylor coaxes fine flavours from locally sourced highlights of land and sea. (1025 Lawrence St, Port Townsend, +1 360 344 8127; restaurantfinistere.com)

WHOLESUME Chef Breanna Beike knows how to maximise flavour while keeping things admirably unfussy, and her **Heritage Restaurant Bar** quickly became a Woodinville favourite for dishes such as Manila clams with kale, white beans and housemade Alsatian sausage, meatballs and polenta or farro risotto of spiced delicata squash. (14450 Redmond-Woodinville Rd, +1 425 419 4760; heritagewoodinville.com)

FLIGHTS OF FANCY Whether you kick back in Woodinville or pitch up at its buzzy Seattle flagship, don't miss the imaginative wine flights at **Purple Café and Wine Bar**, which contrast well-chosen Washington wines with their old wine equivalents. (1225 4th Ave, Seattle, +1 206 829 2280 & 14459 Redmond-Woodinville Rd NE, +1 425 483 7129; purplecafe.com)

SMART TIPS

SHORT ON TIME? Make a beeline to **Pike Place Market** (pikeplacemarket.org) where local drinks producers sample and sell their wares; catch an informal Friday afternoon tasting at **Pike and Western Wine Shop** (pikeandwestern.com) or hit happy hour at **RN74 restaurant** (michaelmina.net), where double-jobbing sommelier-winemaker Jeff Lindsay-Horsen of WI Vintners curates an extraordinary cellar.

SMART FLIERS

AER LINGUS flies from Dublin to SEATTLE five times per week.