

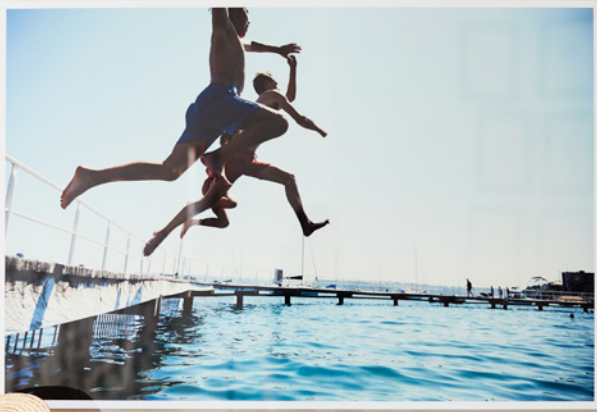
## The Explorer

After years of living out of a suitcase, DAVID PRIOR is happy to have a permanent place to call home

by LAUREL PANTIN  
photographed by JOHNNY MILLER



Grooming: John Ruidant for See Management.



“The apartment came together harmoniously. These are all the things that are special to me.”



“It’s always a mixture of high and low: finding one or two precious things but also placing value on pieces that are small and inexpensive. That’s our same philosophy with travel.”

**A**s a longtime travel writer, David Prior spent much of his time on the road, so his home base contained little more than an open suitcase, a bed, and a few books. But last year he launched the members-only Prior travel club for intrepid modern-day explorers seeking a memorable experience, like flamenco dancing during Feria de Abril in Seville, Spain, or going to Chile to view the solar eclipse and trek across the Atacama Desert. Having logged so many hours abroad, Prior was ready for a more permanent residence. “I needed a proper apartment, and I wanted to have a place to put the things I collected.” When he first saw what would become his home in N.Y.C.’s Greenwich Village, he was struck by the marble fireplace. “I knew it would be the spot where I could put all the things that were very meaningful to me.” Among them are a handful of lit-from-within stones from Ningaloo Reef in Prior’s native Australia; a dried artichoke he brought back from Apulia, Italy; a beloved lion and Ganesh statue from India; and a vintage coral specimen from Deyrolle in Paris. Every surface in Prior’s cozy apartment features interesting trinkets from his travels, and it’s a comfort now to have them all together. Traveling as he does, Prior says, the world feels so large. “I like having a smaller space to come back to.”





**GLOBAL APPEAL**

Botanical prints, clever curios, and travel and culture books lend a worldly feel.

Lanii Gifts hat, approximately \$45; lanii.com.mx.



Collepino candles, \$28 each; ilbuco.com.



Smythson passport cover, \$210 (plus \$12 per gold-stamped letter); smythson.com.

DP

John Derian découpage tray, \$185; johnderian.com.



Diptyque Paris Coing candle, \$65; diptyqueparis.com.

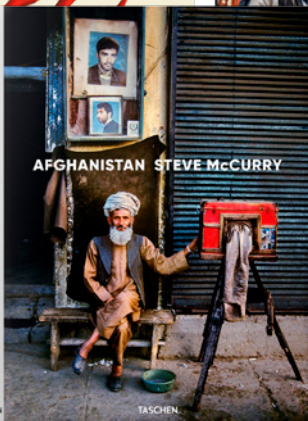
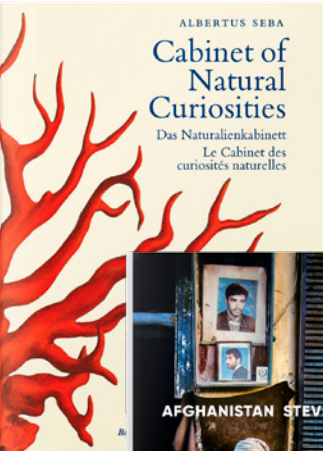


R.M. Williams boots, \$495; rmwilliams.com.



Kiub paperweight, approximately \$17; laboutiquedu petitprince.com.

Valspar Signature paint in Martinique Dawn, \$35/gallon; lowes.com.



Cabinet of Natural Curiosities, by Albertus Seba (\$20). Afghanistan, by Steve McCurry (\$70), and Diego Rivera: The Complete Murals (\$70); taschen.com.



Rimowa suitcase, \$575; rimowa.com.



Hilary Burns basket; similar styles on thenewcraftsmen.com.