



tab. Sending your résumé won't cut it. Some guys go up and pump gas until there's an opening. I flew up there and literally went door to door to all the operators. Then they take you seriously. You need at least 1,000 hours of flight time, and most guys are looking for Alaskan hours as well, because flying up there is so much more challenging than just about anywhere else. But I finally found a guy who took a chance on me."

## 6. Learn a constellation other than the Big Dipper

Sagitta and Delphinus are visible almost everywhere in North America summer through fall ([skyandtelescope.com](http://skyandtelescope.com)).

## 7. Get tubed

Corey Senese, of CoreysWave Professional Surf Instruction ([coreyswave.com](http://coreyswave.com)), explains how: "There are barreling waves in California, Long Island, Mexico. Long Beach is a great surf break known for tubing waves, and it's only

about 45 minutes from New York City. Places like Log Cabins and Pipeline, on the North Shore of Oahu, are famous for tubing but are also challenging, crowded, and potentially dangerous if you don't know what you're doing. Look for the right surf conditions—three to ten feet plus—and light offshore winds. Once you have the wave lined up, paddle hard! If you're about to pull into a tubing wave, the drop is fast and steep. Take a high line into the steep section ahead of you. Wait a second while the lip of the wave comes over your head and you get swallowed by it. Take a deep, life-changing breath of tube air, because less than 1 percent of people ever experience this feeling."

### READER POLL: SKILLS

## 8. Master a second language

A second language can get you a job, make you sexier ("Mon petit chou"), and even stave off dementia in old age. Then there's that part about talking to people on your adventures. The best

### I DID IT

## 9. OVERACHIEVE

*Outside's* chief inspiration officer, 36-year-old ERIC GREITENS, is a master of getting things done. Like becoming a Navy SEAL commander with four tours, earning a Rhodes scholarship and a Ph.D., running 12 marathons and three ultramarathons, and now juggling operations for his own philanthropic organization with public speaking engagements, media interviews, writing books, and consulting—while still finding time to run, climb, and practice taekwondo. Here's how he does it: "It's all about energy. Whether you're leading a nonprofit organization, running a private company, doing something outdoors, or conducting military operations—you have to build habits that keep your energy high. This is my formula: (1) Vigorous exercise: Six days a week, I walk out of a gym, a dojo, or off a track pouring with sweat. When I have a great workout, I rarely have a bad day. (2) Good fuel: When I eat clean, quality food during the day, my energy never sags. (3) Good partners: Working with a team of positive people keeps your spirits up. (4) Balance: I pray every day, and I also laugh, a lot. You won't have focus without balance. (5) A goal: A worthy challenge will take care of your motivation for you." —J.N.

available crash course is Rosetta Stone software (\$229; [rosettastone.com](http://rosettastone.com)), which will teach you at least enough to ask your waiter not to bring fizzy water. A full immersion program is much better, of course. Don't have time to leave the country? Concordia Language Villages ([concordialanguagevillages.org](http://concordialanguagevillages.org)) offers four-day or one-week programs in ten languages at their campus on Turtle River Lake, in northern Minnesota. If you do have the time, and you

want Spanish, the Institute for Spanish Language Studies offers a compelling combo program in Costa Rica: Spanish in the morning, surf lessons in the afternoon. (\$1,200; [isls.com](http://isls.com))

## 10. Catch a steelhead on a spey rod

Spey casting, a two-handed Old World technique devised to catch ill-tempered salmon, is not just for the aesthetics. Steelhead are basically bulldozers with scales; they demand heavy