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READ US
WHERE
YOU ARE

CREATE THE PERFECT FIT

BY MARGOT ROBERTS

We've all had this experience; you pack for a trip for vacation, and you end up fitting everything in your suitcase only to find you forgot about your all-important shoe collection. Not that you would bring every pair you own, but let's face it, the more choices—the better you'll feel!

Meet the solution; premium travel bag and shoe company LEIGHxAZZUL have partnered and created Newport's new and most unique retail store—not only in the City By The Sea but probably to be found anywhere.

LEIGH travel bags, made for shoe lovers on the go, along with AZZUL shoes—featuring nautical design elements—have joined into a single shop that takes the worry out of shopping. Now you can travel in style and keep your feet looking as good as the rest of you.

The LEIGH collection of travel bags includes sturdy yet highly stylish duffles, backpacks, and specialty bags with adjustable spaces to pack shoes away from clothes and other items—an exclusive in the luggage category. All LEIGH bags are lined with X-STATIC Anti-Microbial Silver Technology® that stops bacteria and odor before it starts.

AZZUL shoes, bridge old-world Portuguese craftsmanship, and modern styling in eye-catching collections for women and men. All AZZUL footwear is designed in New York and handcrafted in Portugal by artisans, resulting in the highest quality products.

LEIGH Founder/Designer Tracey Cugno and AZZUL Founder/Creative Director Manny Rodrigues, are both self-described “serial entrepreneurs” on parallel paths. “For the



past four years, Manny and I both were indulging our passion for design, building a brand from scratch, and working with the same product development consultant in New York, when we finally met, we realized our collections are not only synergistic but could have a greater impact off-line and in the real world where the pairing is exciting and tangible,” Cugno said.

Rodrigues sees the collaboration specific to its new location. “As a world-class resort destination with a nautical vibe, Newport felt like the obvious place to open a beautiful store for our brands,” Rodrigues explained, “The best part is that we get to serve the local community year-round.”

The industrious pair are sure to attract customers even with the current health concerns. For a safe and enjoyable shopping experience, a maximum of six customers will be allowed inside the store at one time. Shoppers and staff are required to wear masks and observe social distancing. Masks will be provided for customers who do not bring their own, and hand sanitizer and gloves will be available. ★

LEIGHxAZZUL is open daily from 10 a.m.–7 p.m. and is located at 192 Thames Street in Newport, RI. For more information, go to leighshoecase.com and azzul.com.

