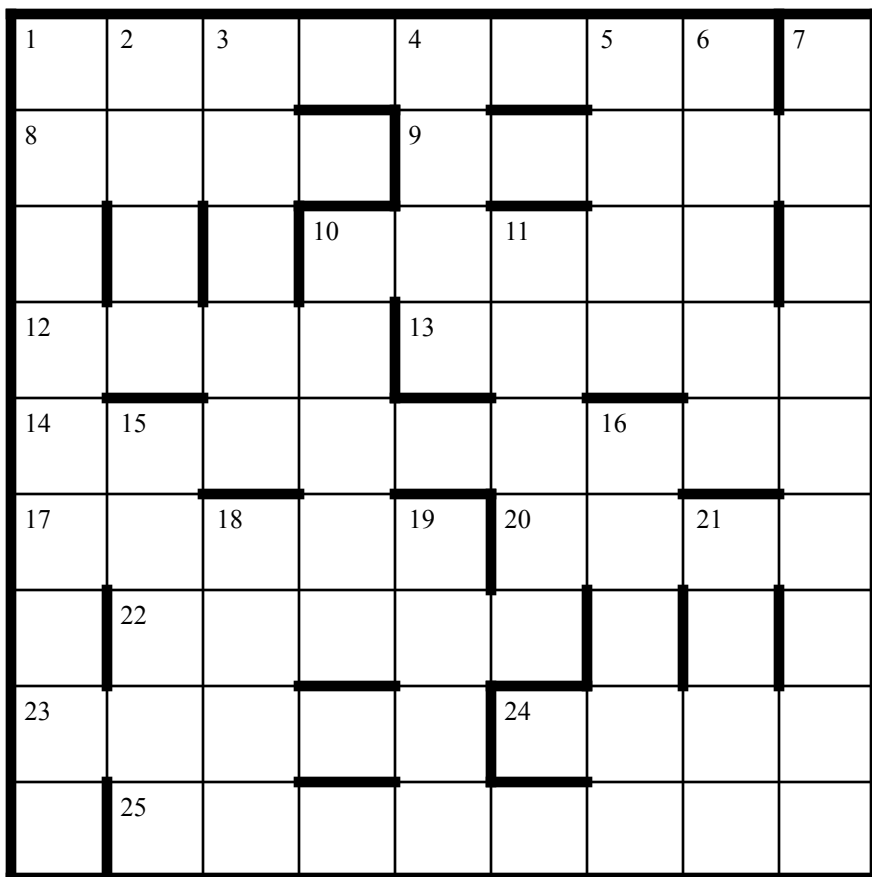


The title of this puzzle is just an ellipsis-like trio of circles or dots because (at the time of writing) our plans for this Sunday in August are not yet decided between an event at a specific beach or a food event. In the filled grid, six symmetrically-placed Across answers (with normal clues) will form an ambiguous nine-word wordplay-only clue to the seven-letter key words for *both* plans. In case the clue is a bit obscure, all the rest of the Across clues have wordplay yielding a letter sequence with an extra letter at the start and end of the answer; the start letters, and separately the end letters, will give those two key words.

Each Down clue has an extra letter that must be deleted before solving; in clue order, these letters will spell out where we will travel if we follow one plan, or what will do if we follow the other.



ACROSS

- 1. Non-vegan food pits left filled with wood (5 3)
- 8. Having character who is amusingly clever horse (4)
- 9. Bird, by the French name (5)
- 10. Bird spit out barkless beech (5)
- 12. Modify dovelike sound to ensnare cardinal (4)
- 13. Ulan Bator's second Jovian moon-porch (5)
- 14. Clothing of said retro smoocher hugging Parisian is most stylish and fancy (9)
- 17. Stone containing metal circuits turned less colorful (5)
- 20. Esau capturing American or Persian city of old (4)
- 22. Three tenors have to live with that inebriate (5)
- 23. Roughly touch boxing ring (5)
- 24. Oscar understood west African country (4)
- 25. Piece of zinc ensorcells myrrh-burner (8)

DOWN

- 1. Using parms spread outward to get news (9)
- 2. Season or herb perceived by the earl (4)
- 3. Piece of duet that's "Wandering Yeast" (5)
- 4. Mold album vendors Kelt misdescribed (1-3)
- 5. Ari, Cato, Sue, & Ben on the right highway (1-3)
- 6. Requests more than one mead after start of uplink (5)
- 7. One who thinks umpire hats fit, ultimately (9)
- 10. Pho's fed the last of Italy's excellent models (5)
- 11. Wast straddling Orne's middle (5)
- 15. Sole in Egypt and basses near India for cleric (5)
- 16. Rogues redistributed money (5)
- 18. Redbone who sang "Sitar of the East" (say) is upset (4)
- 19. Routine used oink sounds (4)
- 21. Sang when sitting on old starch (4)