

CRYPTIC TRIPTYCH

by Neville Fogarty

Let's go on a journey together. A journey to a place where crosswords look a little different. A place filled with anagrams, homophones, and all other sorts of wordplay. Let's visit the world of cryptic crosswords.

In honor of this year's travel-themed Indie 500 crossword tournament, I've constructed a suite of travel-inspired cryptic crosswords for you to enjoy. And because it's the 5th such tournament, there are five¹ puzzles in this collection. I hope these crosswords make for good team-solving material during breaks between puzzles and some fun on the train/flight home.

The puzzles are presented in order of perceived difficulty, from easiest to hardest. If this is your first time solving cryptic crosswords, don't be afraid to ask someone else for guidance or to consult the Internet for a primer on solving cryptics. If you're an old pro at cryptics, I challenge you to see far you can get through these puzzles using only the Across clues.

Big ups and shouts out to test pilots Erik Agard and Andy Kravis for taking the first cracks at these puzzles and helping to make your solving experience smooth sailing. That said, any errors in this collection are solely mine.

If you want to check your answers or get a fresh copy of this set of puzzles (say, for a friend), head over to <https://nevillefogarty.wordpress.com/2019/06/01/cryptic-triptych/>. Please feel free to share these puzzles with anyone you like. If you'd like to get in touch with me directly, find me at the tournament or email me at neville.fogarty@gmail.com.

Travel safe,
Neville

¹You might ask, "Why is this a *triptych* if there are *five* puzzles?" Well, the reason is *three-fold*: (1) "triptych" starts with "trip," which is on-theme, (2) "triptych" rhymes with "cryptic," and (3) when using double-sided printing, this collection exists on three pages. If it makes you feel more comfortable, please feel free not to solve any two of these puzzles.

Travel Channel

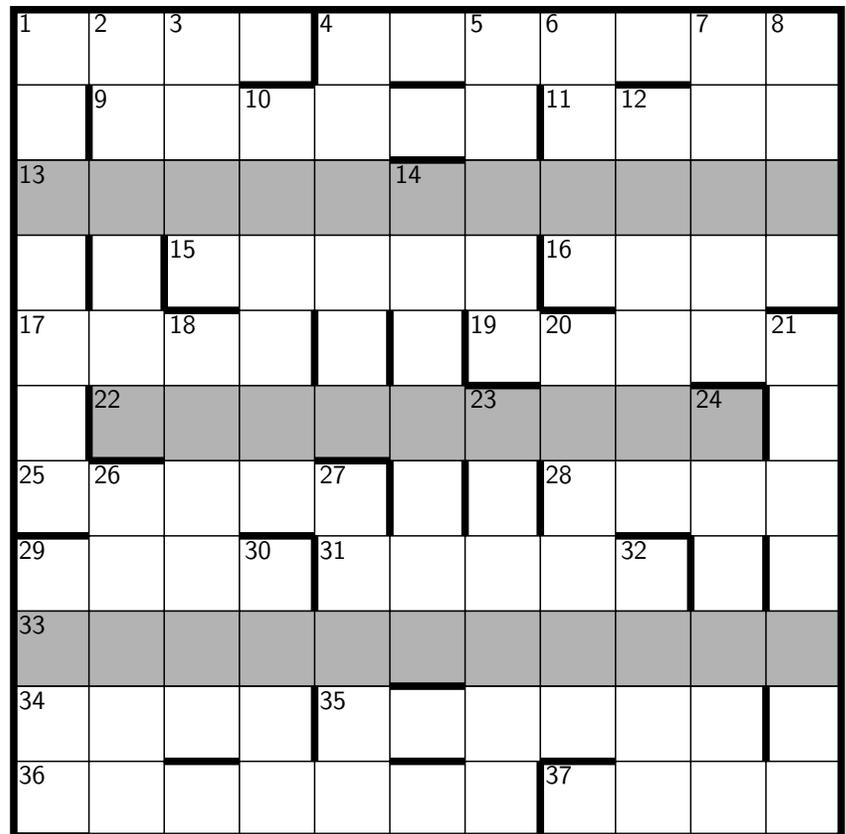
The shaded entries in this grid are the two-word titles of TV shows originating from various cities across the United States.

ACROSS

1. Singer Fitzgerald in L.A. (4)
4. Scrambled cable in Delaware is fiasco (7)
9. California is backwards ... no place to gamble (6)
11. Joint led by Charlie and Nick (4)
13. *See instructions*
15. Tracking device from either direction (5)
16. Spooky-sounding lake (4)
17. Deheaded shrimplike creatures in small stream (4)
19. Reportedly fixed with tool (5)
22. *See instructions*
25. Athlete Lipinski took one crown (5)
28. Seizes heartless men (4)
29. Foster faceless dog in the comics (4)
31. Coach aloud, in a way (5)
33. *See instructions*
34. Bravo, bagel spread (4)
35. Bad singer Johnny (6)
36. East erupts, capturing North's channel (7)
37. Paradise beyond southwest Sweden (4)

DOWN

1. Former lover crept around passage (7)
2. Energyless Michael shocked to life (6)
3. Currency returned home (4)
4. I'm dead after breaking queen's headwear (6)
5. Jerks jeer gutless royals (5)
6. Central teachers hurt (4)
7. Fat lip upon identification (5)
8. Vegetable peeler concealed thing with a point (4)
10. Directionless rascal strays (6)
12. Poet's husband or pilot (6)
14. I can go dancing around club to Lady Gaga, maybe (3,4)
18. Absurd lies about artificial intelligence network (6)
20. Artist Mondrian has good luck creating pink character (6)
21. Greek character misused Pine-Sol (7)
23. Clears crypts (6)
24. Patriot Allen against end of greenhouse gas (6)
26. Beat solid heroes (5)
27. Go gaga over notes supporting article (5)
29. Instrument displayed in jumbo Boeing (4)
30. Half of Carleton College (4)
32. Old commercial about brand of appliances (4)



Passport Stamps

This grid represents your passport. Four Across clues (indicated by italics and missing enumerations) have answers that don't fit their locations in the grid (indicated by shading). If you get your passport stamped in the right countries, each time creating a new word or phrase, everything will work out.

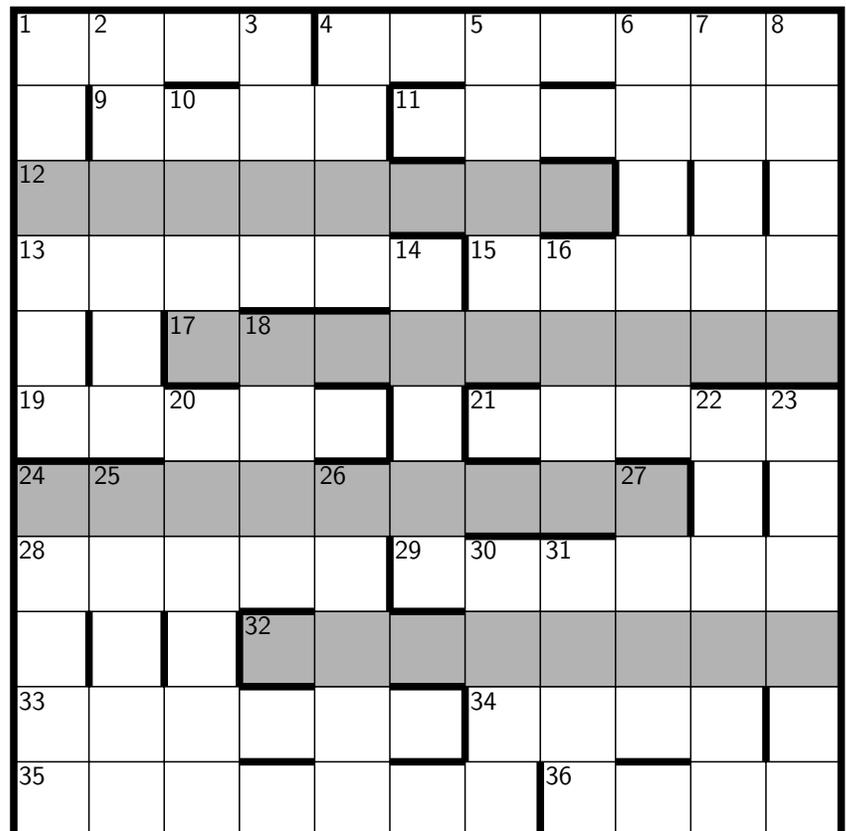
ACROSS

1. Golfer's equipment and attire (4)
4. Neckwear for hip folks holding nearly all-night dance party (7)
9. List of men at university (4)
11. Now put random word in front of "girl" or "funk" to make a song title (6)
12. *Tweet some musings*
13. TV host investigates famous model lacking energy (6)
15. After opening, perfume sample is sweet-smelling substance (5)
17. *Smelled a little roast ankle*
19. Teeter back without third joint (5)
21. Artillery blast and demolish ovals (5)
24. *Number of bananas to fry*
28. Marie Laveau hides princess under the sea (5)
29. Little appliances for flowers (6)
32. *Heard fake physicist*
33. Sir, get around big cats (6)
34. Get rid of medieval contest after the beginning (4)

35. Arouse and walk around a Greek character (5,2)
36. Intense passage from Bede epic (4)

DOWN

1. Overthrow highest ranking Eastern European without second-in-command (6)
2. Celebrity chef served up fruit hosting TV show (6)
3. Ignore rising baked goods (4)
4. Swear in Marcus Samuelsson (4)
5. Breaking a pane creates disorder (5)
6. Of the main artery crossing flat road in reverse (6)
7. Adolescent is overly precious, no? (5)
8. Tin vessel for cattiness (5)
10. Uplifted sensitive love god (4)
14. Undecided 50-50 game (1-4)
16. Hurry to a doctor for piece of data (4)
18. Celestial streaker: almost near (4)
20. Join game (6)
22. Leave Virginia with Catherine (6)
23. Dang! Operator with Home Shopping Network to write dad up (2,4)
24. False deeds are reality (5)
25. Circle or section (5)
26. Warning offensive L.A. Ram (5)
27. Cook Amy's vegetables (4)
30. Restaurant with breakfast I almost desire (4)
31. Lou Dobbs at first is vociferous (4)



Border Crossings

This puzzle grid represents a certain region named by the shaded entry at 23-Across. Some Down entries have chosen to cross the grid's borders; their expatriate letters name the region outside of the grid. Down enumerations are withheld to protect the border crossers' identities.

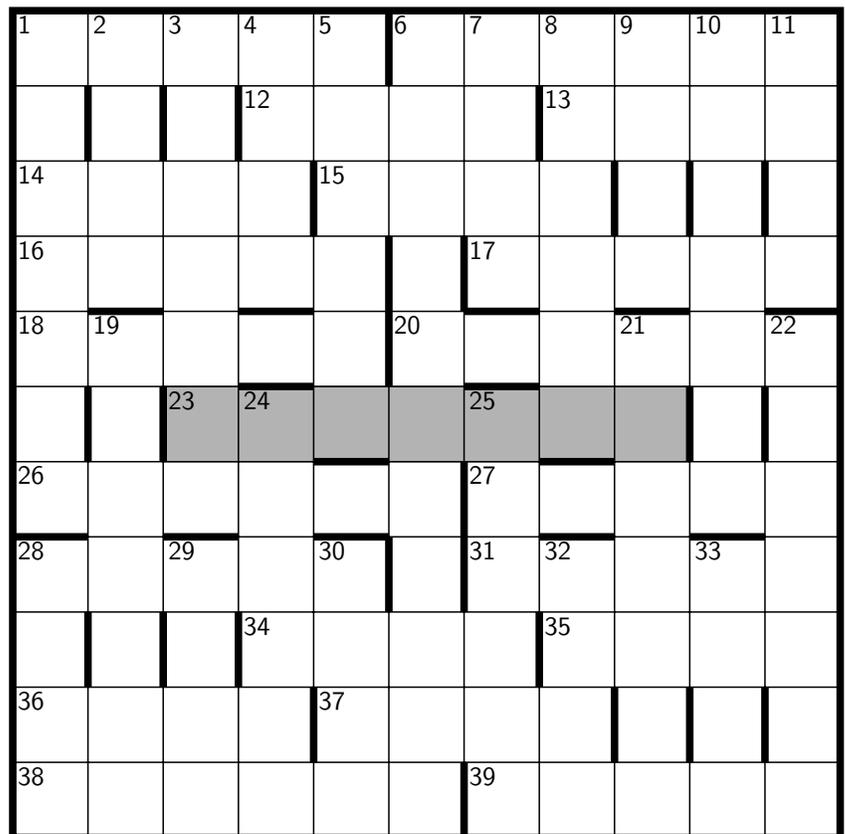
ACROSS

1. Western philosopher's plant (5)
6. Instincts about loop (or loops) around the neck (6)
12. Introduction of that weird Sondheim character (4)
13. City in Surrey or Kent (4)
14. Small road stretched out, it's reported (4)
15. Catty remark from homeowners (4)
16. Rapper Deirdre lost Neil's heart (2,3)
17. Unruly trios create uproars (5)
18. Turn away from decapitated police inspector (5)
20. Cad Tom revisited Siamese realm? (6)
23. *See instructions*
26. Legendary island where no lava flows (6)
27. Nearly bygone unconventional physician (2-3)
28. Lowlife holds degree from Moroccan capital (5)
31. Bacardi product and Bacardi logo nearly created by Cuban steps (5)
34. Wrong treat, they say (4)
35. Called auction for cruise (4)
36. We hear two letters from cartoon dog (4)

37. Pine for one star of *West Side Story* (4)
38. Mistakenly elides fuel (6)
39. Supply at a beauty salon or a hardware store (5)

DOWN

1. Actors Mineo and Carvey with *Guardians of the Galaxy* actress
2. Boo guards playing with no defense
3. Former president named Al, sort of
4. Western hat uncovered
5. Streakers coming from company baseball team
6. Taken care of in mysterious, untold corner (2 wds.)
7. *Game of Thrones* character gets beheaded, and it reeks
8. Oh, witty, perverse torture (2 wds.)
9. *Star Wars* hero, for one
10. Don't start Cher's conservative record of women
11. Plays without true sports gear
19. Composer to live in Spain with large lady
21. Pet parent with tailless parasite is domineering
22. Leonardo's lady cooked no salami (2 wds.)
24. *The Late Show* segment delights
25. Actress Spelling eats 2,000 pounds of dessert
28. Mary's friend to move a boat obviously in the sound
29. Short-lived cheese to fail
30. Wrote about tall building
32. They grade meat from Columbus Day (Abbr.)
33. William's invoice



Missed Connections

Four Across entries in this grid have missed their connections, so you'll have to work with four more Across entries to help them reschedule for later. In either case, rescheduling results in real words and phrases. Across enumerations are withheld to keep everything running on time.

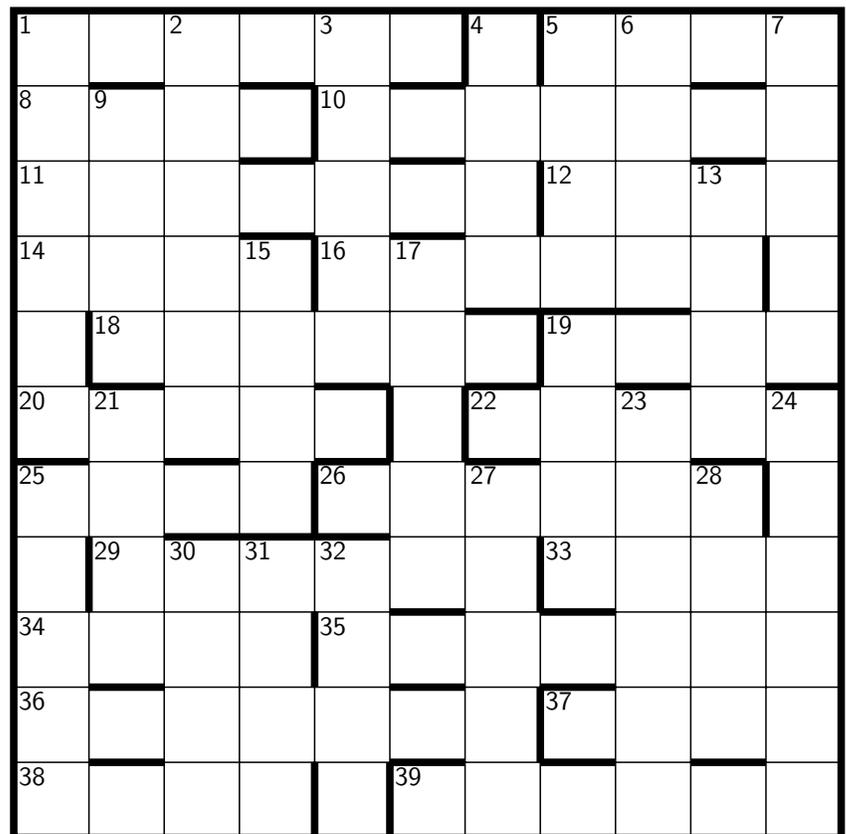
ACROSS

1. Passionate tale about Premier of Manitoba
5. Patriot Ross almost speculates
8. TV lawyer with rug attached to bit of hair
10. Direction to cut head off monster
11. Disney princess holds back web for communications device
12. Vessel and empty vessel
14. Loosened up and left chopper maintained by Marxist
16. Oddly, Gladys is happy
18. Place with Yanni's first girlfriend back in the day
19. Hold back vessels
20. Lady who's lazy or black-eyed?
22. Prank pickled bud
25. Get food delivered or demolish diner (2 wds.)
26. Noted middle child in Germany: yes and no
29. Singer and tennis player, right to left
33. High society type to cry about end of taxation
34. Two men in Canadian city
35. Simple bed and energy source in shelter

36. Easter event with Chinese food (2 wds.)
37. Agreed to change name
38. Go down toilets in Liverpool, by the sound of it
39. Avoid Spooner's dessert fish

DOWN

1. Hurts intelligence (6)
2. Groups of eight convert to sect (6)
3. \$1,000 for one in craze for Japanese comics (5)
4. Bela Lugosi presents carrier (2,2)
5. BBH (4)
6. Heard nothing of French waters (4)
7. Walks, crushing pests (5)
9. Singles love video game console (4)
13. Eight bits near tellurium (4)
15. College administrator/actor James (4)
17. Mafia boss follows commercial attachment (3-2)
19. Dads with poor equipment for goalies (4)
21. Bear seen at night creates resistance in country (4)
23. Godmother has a country (6)
24. Flemish painter's sandwiches on the tongue (6)
25. Microsoft program's extra large, for the audience (5)
27. How to take some medicine after starting race (5)
28. A, A#, B, C, C#, D, D#, F, F#, G, or G#! (4)
30. Work for bottom half of icebergs (4)
31. Instrument that teller of tales heard (4)
32. Online scam science (4)



Checkpoints

Six squares in this grid represent checkpoints where the traveling Down entries are having difficulty going through the Across entries. See what you can do to help them out. Enumerations are withheld to hide the checkpoints' locations.

ACROSS

1. Goes about pride centers
4. Tenor and soprano abandon Oscar and Tina's instrument
9. Business once involved in Mexican food
10. Dilapidated Roman home
11. Touches a spread or condiment (2 wds.)
13. Family has many odds and ends
14. Awfully vile!
15. Branch of the armed forces made of reformed scum (Abbr.)
18. Disturbed rituals involved in novelty for dessert (2 wds.)
19. Lifeless snake removed from enclosure
20. I made terrible TV and radio
23. Power tool used to finish and shape nerd's table (2 wds.)
28. Boy's name tag has the first letter missing
30. Tiny piece is far away the first time?
31. Launch is least disruptive (2 wds.)
32. Recycled waste in happy escapes (2 wds.)
33. Professor's goal no longer has time condition
34. Retired tennis player is a gas, oddly

35. Outside of university, learn about home of Irish hero (2 wds.)
36. Viewed and heard part of a play

DOWN

1. Part of hospital has the anesthetic
2. Rancid ziti! Detox, giving up all teas, and undergo a reaction
3. Biblical king or, alternately, seagull
4. Happen to hear a mangy mutt
5. Radio button is a force between mikes (Abbr.)
6. How you might fry one cat up (2 wds.)
7. Couldn't tell you to give the OK with one apiece (2 wds.)
8. Equip a prosecutor's fleet
12. Appliance covered by no vent
16. Material went back and forth, reportedly
17. Cried out for drink
18. Diego's wife cut end of the workweek short
19. Birds and flowers with bee for Romeo
21. Don't stay alert or raise blade with energy
22. Letter in Patriot Act
24. Middle of 7th episode
25. Sick in bed from botched epidural outside of ER (2 wds.)
26. Transformed glee at the Fourth of July into lament
27. Enter inky mess concealing Egypt's leader (2 wds.)
29. Ran from double dippers
30. Maids worked for mythical king

