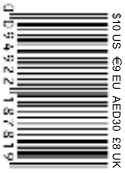


DESTINATIONS OF THE WORLD
news

Essential travel intelligence

June 2018



On the road
JAGUAR F-TYPE

**SUITE
DREAMS**
A Costa Rican
jungle retreat

**SUMMER IN THE
SEYCHELLES**

FROM BEAU VALLON
TO BANYAN TREE

**THE BEST OF THE
MALDIVES**

A MEDLEY OF MALDIVIAN GETAWAYS

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CONTENTS

June 2018

ON THE COVER

50 Summer in the Seychelles

A glimpse of Mahé, the crown jewel of a 115-island archipelago

60 Best of the Maldives

Top 10 lists are overrated. We bring you a dizzying array of five-star stays in the Maldives

50

Lose yourself among the dense vegetation at Banyan Tree Seychelles



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MALDIVES

CONTENTS

June 2018

IN THE NEWS

32 Europe

Turn back time at Six Senses Kaplankaya; chase the dragon in Finland; timely design in the Vallée de Joux

37 Middle East & Africa

Beat the heat with Alila; decadent dining in Cape Town; rhino watching in Kenya

40 Asia & Oceania

Shanghai shuffle; suite sensations in Hong Kong; welcome to the jungle in Ubud

42 Americas

Upping the luxe factor at sea; discovering Mexico's Xpu-Ha; what's next for NoMad?

44 Debut

Hot hotels, chic boutiques and exclusive new resorts

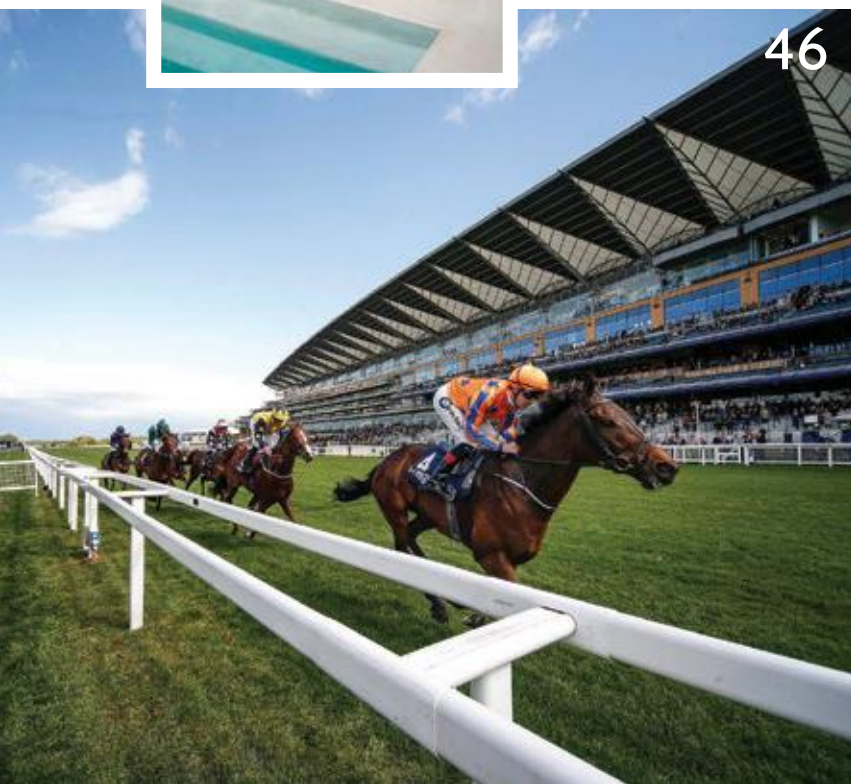
46 Diary

This month's pick of sporting, cultural and artistic events



43

46



91

SPEND IT

80 Escapes

The best one-of-a-kind travel experiences money can buy

86 Arabian journeys

Short-haul itineraries for your next Arabian adventure

90 No adults allowed

Inspiring products and adventures for junior travellers and intrepid tots

92 Interview

A seasoned career –and still sizzling – the enigmatic Ken Hom

94 Suite dreams

Jungle luxe in Costa Rica

96 Essentials

The most elegant items available to purchase this month

100 On the road

The latest news and launches from the world of high-end motoring

102 Road tested

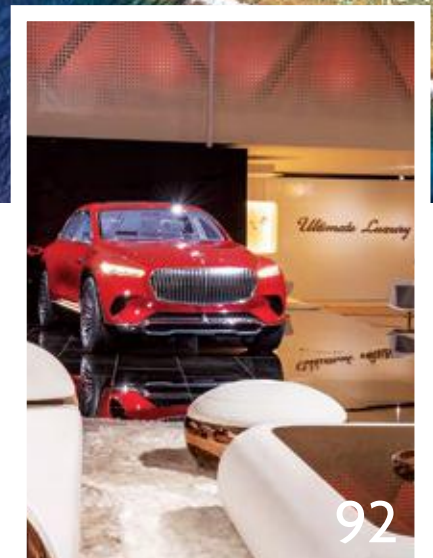
We push the pedal and get Jaguar's new F-Type to purr

106 Set sail

Exquisite renderings of superyachts that could soon become a reality

108 Out of this world

Around the world in 245 days with Viking Cruises



92

DESTINATIONS OF THE WORLD
news
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dotwnews.com/app

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NEWS

HOT EVENTS, NEW HOTELS AND GLOBAL JET SETTERS



32

HIGH & DINE

Discover the Matterhorn from above with an exclusive chopper experience at Gstaad Palace

- 32** **NEWS:** Luxury travel news from around the world
- 44** **DEBUT:** Hot new hotels & exclusive resorts
- 46** **DIARY:** What to see and where to be seen this month



ALPINE DELUXE AT THE CHEDI ANDERMATT

WHEN THE CHEDI ANDERMATT OPENED in 2013, Jean Michel Gathy's Swiss masterpiece was quickly crowned one of the most drop dead gorgeous hotels in Europe. Its exaggerated Alpine chalet façade makes it the dominant building in the sleepy town of Andermatt, which sits at the head of the Gotthard Pass; a vital European trade route in times gone by.

To mark its five-year anniversary, the hotel has renovated its signature penthouse abode, the Gotthard Suite; a five-bedroom apartment complete with a spacious living room and dining area with a stunning wood burner and fully-equipped kitchen – all set over 350 sqm of wood-panelled Alpine chalet style.

Designers Jaeggi Architekten have added new touches to the two-level suite, including a children's

playroom stuffed with beanbags and berth style beds for the kids; a circular feature staircase; and a magnificent wooden bathtub carved from a single piece of walnut.

The penthouse boasts views of the surrounding mountains from its spacious terrace, and promises ultra-chic Alpine luxury dwelling for anyone who can front the US \$15,000 per night price tag.



SWISS WATCHMAKING MEETS LUXURY HOSPITALITY IN THE VALLÉE DE JOUX

AUDEMARS PIGUET'S HOTEL DES HORLOGERS WILL BOAST ONE UNIQUE FEATURE that no other Swiss luxury hotel can match when it opens in 2020: a zigzagging roof that allows guests to ski directly down to the slopes.

Designed by Danish firm Bjarkle Ingels Group (BIG), the 50-room hotel will also offer two restaurants, a bar, conference centre and spa when complete, allowing skiers, business guests or aficionados of the Swiss brand to spend quality time in Western Switzerland's Vallée de Joux, where the watchmaker has been based since 1875.

Next door, adjacent to the Audemars Piguet workshop, work is also underway for the 2,400 sqm Musée Atelier Audemars Piguet – a swirling spiral also designed by BIG – which will celebrate almost a century and a half of watchmaking excellence.

CHASING THE DRAGON IN FINLAND

THE SUMMER SUN SHINES FOR 19 HOURS A DAY in Helsinki, providing almost constant illumination for the magnificent Ai Weiwei sculpture that dominates the glass-roofed lobby of Hotel St. George. The seven-headed dragon is one of several works of art in the new address – a fresh-faced contemporary boutique that breathes new life into Helsinki's hotel portfolio.

Located in a beautifully restored heritage building in Helsinki's historic centre, the St. George boasts 148 rooms and five unique suites, all of which feature parquet flooring, contemporary artwork and thoughtful, pared back interior design that brings a homely flavour to modern Scandi-style.

Light also pours through the glass ceiling of the Wintergarden, where a six-metre metal creation by Finnish sculptor Pekka Jylhä hovers above social nooks and an open lounge bar and bakery. The Monocle magazine kiosk and reading room provides space for intellectual nourishment, while the St. George Care Spa has a pool, sauna and treatment rooms for physical and mental wellbeing.

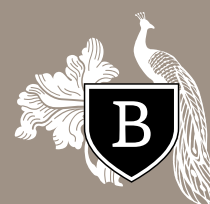
Finnish-Turkish chef Mehmet Gürs works culinary magic at Restaurant Andrea, the hotel's signature restaurant, where sharing plates of Nordic-Anatolian dishes promise to tantalise adventurous eaters.

SUITE TREATS IN LAUSANNE



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NEW FLAVOURS AT FIVE PALM JUMEIRAH DUBAI

LED BY CHEF ANTONIO MELLINO, QUATTRO Passi is one of Palm Jumeirah's foremost dining destinations. The authentic Italian ristorante, located at FIVE Palm Jumeirah, is inspired by the original two Michelin-starred Quattro Passi in Nerano, Italy, and is now celebrating the launch of a new menu, one year after opening. Guests can expect delicious classic flavours of Southern Italy, including a range of pasta, seafood, grilled and roasted meats, sharing platters, and assorted

pastries and desserts. Signature dishes include the chef's linguine alla nerano, which serves up memories of Sorrento's stunning scenery. Named after the beach town in which it originated, this classic linguine dish allows the fresh zucchini flowers and 30-month old Parmigiano Reggiano to star. The ravioli fumé, pomodoro pachino e burrata liquida was created by Chef Giuseppe for his nonna; a Capri-inspired smoked buffalo mozzarella ravioli that's topped

with fresh Mediterranean tomatoes and burrata cream.

For something sweet, try the pastiera Napoletana, grano cotto, ricotta, crema pasticcera. The classic Neapolitan dessert is typically prepared for Easter in Italy but is now enjoyed throughout the year. Tradition calls for this cooked corn, ricotta and custard cream cake to be prepared a day in advance and stored in a cotton cloth overnight – and that is exactly what Chef Giuseppe's mama taught him.

BETTER ZZZS WITH SIX SENSES ZIGHY BAY

ROUGHLY A THIRD OF YOUR LIFE IS DEDICATED to sleep – at least it should be – and that's why the 'Sleep With Six Senses' programme aims to perfect the technique. Available at Six Senses Zighy Bay, the program will uncover issues and redefine sleep with the aid of Six Senses specialists and acclaimed Sleep Doctor Michael J. Breus. Upon check-in and choosing the program option after a series of sleep quiz is completed, guests are assigned a personal sleep ambassador who does a consultation session with them.

Every guest's room is then tailored to their needs for a quality sleep with the Sleep Bag and its amenities, Valley Forge moisture-wicking linens and a ResMed S+ Tracker/App, which the wellness practitioner uses to review the results and determine the best course of treatment during a 30-minute personal consultation. Six Senses Zighy Bay will also help guests to take their new found sleep knowledge with them; before departure, guests will receive all the sleep tips and details on how to purchase any of the sleep accessories used during their stay.



BEAT THE HEAT AT ALILA JABAL AKHDAR

THE MERCURY IS RISING AND GCC RESIDENTS ARE SEARCHING FOR FLIGHTS TO ESCAPE the scorching Middle East summer – but some savvy travellers are taking to the mountains for more reasonable climates. Alila Jabal Akhdar is located 2,000 metres above sea level, ensuring temperatures that are always 15 degrees cooler than at sea level – hence the '15 Degrees Cooler' package, which includes a Mountain View suite from \$299, daily à la carte breakfast and dinner for two, 15% off spa treatments, sunrise and sunset yoga, access to Play Alila kids' club, a culinary master class at Juniper Restaurant and much more.





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www.niyama.com

DESTINATIONS

THE WORLD'S MOST DESIRABLE LOCATIONS



58

DESERT ISLAND DREAMS
We bring you 14 pages
packed with paradiscal
getaways in the Maldives

- 50** Explore the Seychelles beyond the resort
- 60** Wellness, dining & other delights: the best of the Maldives

SUMMER IN THE SEYCHELLES

When's the best time to visit the Seychelles? As soon as you can book the ticket, according to **Steven Bond** who makes his fourth outing to the 115-island archipelago and uncovers new corners, flavours and one of Mahé's most prestigious resorts







Above: A view over Eden Island and numerous other islands of the Seychelles. Right: the iconic clock tower in Victoria. Previous opener: One of Banyan Tree's private infinity pool looks out over the ocean.

The rains may come and go but there's never a bad time to visit the Seychelles. Tropical showers are sandwiched by seemingly perma-sunshine and the temperatures never seem to soar beyond "beach please" – and my-oh-my is there an embarrassment of riches when it comes to pristine sandy shores. The Seychelles has the most mind-bendingly beautiful beaches I've ever seen; namely Anse Source d'Argent on the island of La Digue and Anse Lazio in the northeast of Praslin, the archipelago's second island in terms of both size and population.

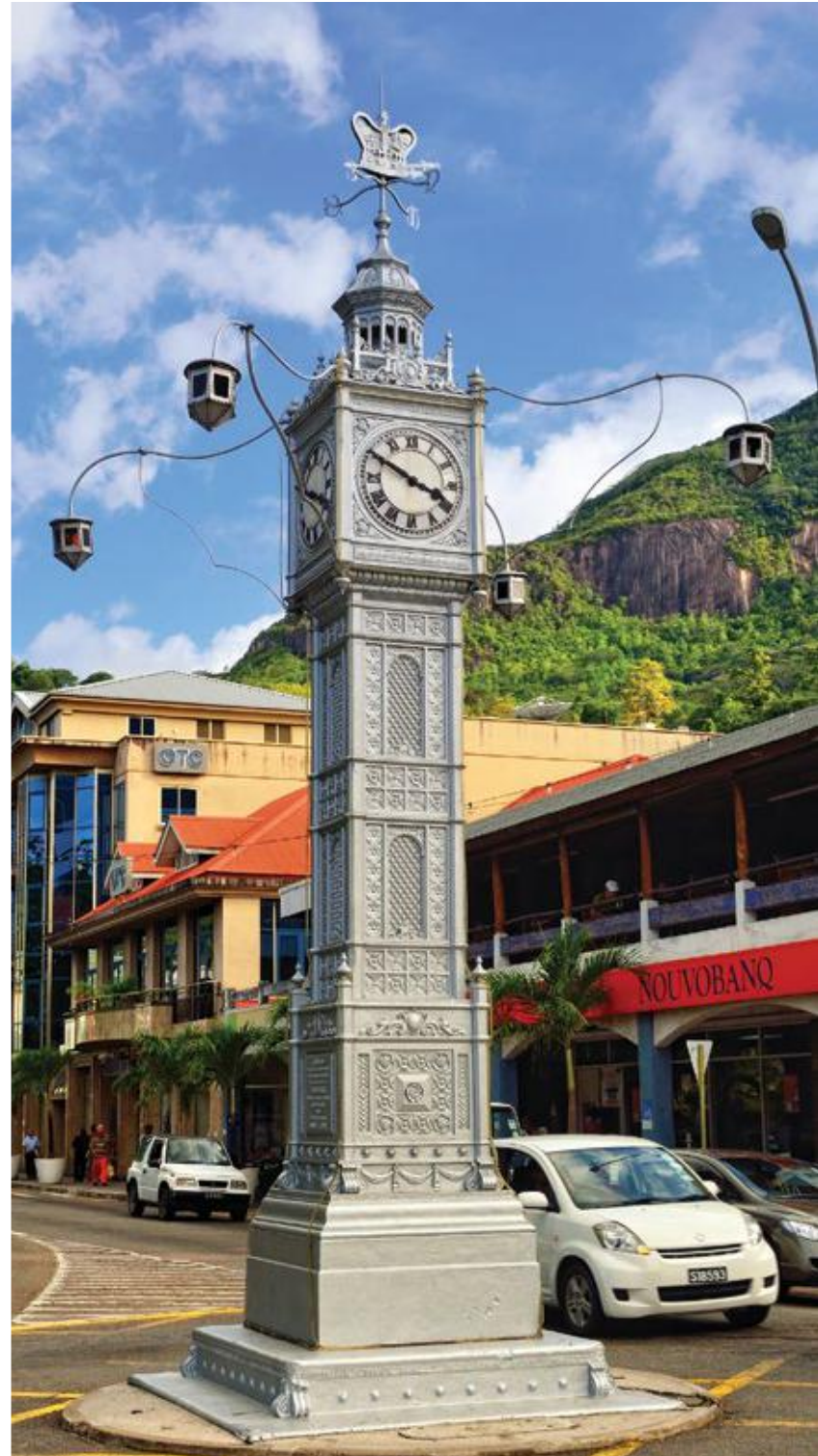
BEACH PLEASE

But you don't have to stray far to locate a coastal haven. There are sandy gems strewn all over Mahé, a stone's throw from Seychelles International Airport, but it's worth a quick 25-minute drive via Victoria to reach Beau Vallon Beach, a curling crescent of powdery white perfection and a hot spot for diving and snorkelling thanks glassy blue waters and healthy coral reefs. In addition to a range of boutique stays, there are a few major hotels around the bay; namely Berjaya Beau Vallon, Coral Strand and Le Meridien Fisherman's Cove – the site of the oldest hotel on Mahé, dating back to 1943 but refurbished several times over, with the Coral Strand predating government restrictions on hotels erected directly on the shore.

Beau Vallon also hosts a variety of restaurants including the iconic white building of La Plage, also directly on the beach, as well as the popular pizzeria Baobab. Not far to the north is Hilton Seychelles Northolme Resort & Spa where I stayed on my previous island outing but, despite perfect weather, I wasn't content to flop on the beach this time around. With the assistance of Bernard, a local Seychellois, handy driver and veritable raconteur, I was more inclined to take a zig-zagging road trip across the mainland, taking in Mahé from coastline to hillside and back again.

HELLO VICTORIA

Aside from paying a little visit to the Seychelles Carnival several years ago, I hadn't really taken



in Victoria, Seychelles' capital city, despite the unmissable Victoria Clock tower, gifted from the UK in 1903, six years after its big brother, Big Ben, was erected in London. In my defence I was a little distracted, gawking with delight at the endless procession of floats on the high street. The "city" is really more akin to a medium-sized town with a smattering of government buildings and within a brisk 15-minute stroll you've essentially circumnavigated what equates to a central business district – but there are a few highlights where it's worth lingering. The Arul Mihi Navasakthi Vinayagar Temple, a Hindu place of worship, stands as a testament to the Indian influences in the captivating mix of Creole identity present on the island.

Roughly adjacent to Sheikh Mohamed bin Khalifa Mosque – named after its primary sponsor, son of the current UAE ruler whose family also owns the ultra-luxe hillside Four Seasons Resort Seychelles – the colourful temple overlooks the fascinatingly named Sir Selwyn Selwyn-Clarke Market, a hub that extends beyond trading and serves as a weekly meeting place for locals who want to yap the weekend away. The bustling, colourful marketplace is probably the fastest way to get a feel for the Seychellois way of life. Standing since 1840 and renovated in 1999, it remains the true heart of the capital and definitely the best place to buy fresh fruits, fish, vegetables and spices – unless you go direct to the source.

DOWN BY THE BANYAN TREE

Not so far from Victoria, the lush, single-lane Intendance Road winds far away from rural hamlets and culminates at Banyan Tree Seychelles, an all-villa escape on the lower-west side of Mahé island. Hectares of dense woodland press the main buildings of the quaint colonial resort against the sweeping bay of Anse Intendance, where guests convene to dine and imbibe when they aren't seeking refuge in their private domains.

This secluded plot of land, once co-owned by George Harrison and Peter Sellers, is now home to 60 villas dotted along the cove and across the rocky hillside, all of which command stunning views of the teeming cerulean waters, just a



An aerial photograph of a Maldivian atoll. The water is a vibrant turquoise, transitioning to a deep blue as it extends into the distance. A small, crescent-shaped island with a white sandy beach and a cluster of palm trees is visible in the middle ground. The foreground shows a sandy beach with a dense line of palm trees and the shallow, clear water of a lagoon.

THE BEST OF THE MALDIVES

It's not certain how the Maldives got its name. It's rumoured to derive from Maala Divaina, meaning "Necklace Islands" in Sinhala, and just like a precious necklace, the coral archipelago shimmers with natural beauty, laced with 1,192 pearls and enhanced only by some of the most exquisite five-star escapes in the world. Here are 16 of the greatest escapes among the dreamy Indian Ocean atolls.



BESPOKE YOUR BODY AT VELAA

Maldivian atolls are known for their azure skies, turquoise waters and gently swaying palms, but it's always the sea turtles that capture the hearts of holidaymakers. Taking inspiration from the island's endemic creature, guests arriving by seaplane will get to glimpse Velaa's design, which subtly mimics a turtle's shell, while the exclusive overwater villas resemble the animal's head, peeking out of crystalline waters.

Velaa's atmosphere will naturally soothe, relax and revive, but guests can fully immerse themselves in an environment of peace and pampering, stripping away any remnants of stress, the resort's Spa is a haven of wellness. New for summer 2018, the private island has announced it will launch its 'Detox & Energizing Spa Retreat', running from June to September 1, 2018. The 7, 14 or 21 day programme promises to be ultra-personalised, tailored to each guests' individual goals and desires, and led by a highly professional team including nutritional therapist Amelia Freer, and fitness trainer Aya Miklos.

When guests arrive, they will receive a comprehensive medical consultation and full body analysis, after which a bespoke daily programme will be crafted around their health needs and goals, such as weight management or flexibility. A combination of a personalized dietary plan tailored for each guest by expert nutritionist Amelia Freer, alongside a bespoke itinerary of sports, yoga, meditation and relaxing spa treatments, will be designed to create lasting results for the guest's mind, body and soul.

The Velaa Energising Programme starts from \$750 per day or \$5,250 per week, subject to applicable taxes and excluding accommodation. The tailored programme would include a medical and dietary consultation with advanced analysis, wellness activities, fitness training, spa treatments, Thai massage, tennis, golf, kayaking and a spa gift hamper and yoga mat. Velaa's Beach Pool Villas start from \$1,815 per night inclusive of daily breakfast.

Velaa Private Island +960 656-5000 www.velaaprivateisland.com

BEST FOR PAMPERING



GO ALL IN WITH SHERATON

A private island resort nestled among lush greenery and palm trees encircled by crystal-clear turquoise lagoon – Sheraton Maldives Full Moon Resort & Spa is a haven in the archipelago, with seven unique restaurant and bars and a dedicated spa island. The resort is now offering an all-inclusive dream getaway with everything from free-flowing food and drink to world-class snorkelling and an array of water sports. The one-price all-inclusive package includes accommodation in a Deluxe Room for two, return speedboat transfers, unlimited access to all restaurants, free-flowing beverages and much more – when you stay a minimum of three nights.

Sheraton Maldives Full Moon Resort & Spa
+960 664-2010
www.sheratonmaldives.com



NIYAMA: A PRIVATE PLAYGROUND

Welcome to paradise this summer at 'Play' and 'Chill', the twin islets of Niyama Private Islands Maldives and take advantage of a very special offer. Book your stay via niyama.com for an incredible 40% off the room rate for stays until September 30, free half-board upgrade and complimentary 60-minute massages for two at the Drift Spa if you stay before July 31.

Privacy is paramount, with each of Niyama's 134 accommodations promising seclusion, with the clear ocean waters lapping at your feet when you stay in a beachfront studio, over-water pavilion or a variety of other room categories. The jewel in the crown, however, is the capacious Crescent, a playground of five ultra-chic villas with private pools for up to 14 adults and eight children, boasting a private chef, two butlers and a host of complimentary activities including a sunset dhoni cruise and movie under the stars.

The sigh-worthy signature massages are paired with leading treatments, including celeb-beauty secret 'Intracuticals' facials, and summer guests can also indulge in the sizzling spices and aromas of home

with visiting chefs throughout the festive period from the Arabian Peninsula at BLU, as well as live entertainment.

Young VIPs will adore the resort's Explorers Kids Club with an immense range of activities, including nature expeditions around the tropical isles and MasterChef classes, while adventure-seeking teens and adults will be inspired by the resort's excellent water sports such as surfing, scuba diving and jet-skiing.

Gastronomes will also relish the nine dining destinations, including tree house restaurant Nest and the world's first underwater playground Subsix, which you'll reach by speedboat before descending a three-tier staircase before diving into Champagne breakfasts, subaquatic lunches, gourmet dinners and glow parties illuminating the night alongside the theatre of the reef.

Niyama Private Islands Maldives
 +960 676-2828
www.niyama.com





SURF AND CELEBRATE AT GILI LANKANFUSHI

Thrill seekers and ocean lovers can embark on a guided surf journey at Gili Lankanfushi Maldives, with programmes designed for beginners. Take to the waves with a lagoon lesson and proceed to the next level by riding the surf, coached by a professional instructor from Tropicsurf. Guests at the resort have access to some of the best surf sites in the entire archipelago and the ‘Gili Goes Surfing’ package is the best way to embrace the sport in paradise.

The resort is offering special rates for budding surfers who stay five nights or more, with a daily gourmet breakfast, a meet-and-greet at Velana International Airport, speedboat transfers and a three-day surf programme.

The ocean will truly be the star of the show this month as the luxury Maldivian resort is also celebrating World Oceans Day on June 8 with eco-friendly initiatives that guests can engage with, including the ‘Coral Lines’ project. The innovative initiative aims to protect and replenish the house reef, maintain biodiversity and mitigate episodic bleaching through long-term growth of coral along midwater lines.

In addition to the creation of a brand new coral line, guests will also learn about the delicate process through which corals are transplanted to the house reef, and have the chance to explore the dedicated wet lab to learn about the research being undertaken by the marine biology team in partnership with visiting scientists, including Crown of Thorns starfish eradication, Manta Ray and Turtle identification, and restoration of the region’s vital seagrass habitat.

All participants will receive a small gift from the team to thank them for their support and remind them of the importance of protecting our oceans. Rates at Gili Lankanfushi start from \$1,400 per night on a room-only basis, based on double occupancy, subject to taxes.

Gili Lankanfushi Maldives +960 664-0304
www.gili-lankanfushi.com





LIVE EXQUISITE WITH ST. REGIS

Guests staying at the St. Regis Maldives Vommuli Resort can now experience the ultimate in luxury living both over, and on, the water. The newly launched 'Live Exquisite' package means you can spend four nights at the John Jacob Astor Estate villa, one of the largest overwater villas in the Maldives, and enjoy an overnight stay on board the stunning Azimut Flybridge 66 yacht, Norma, for a fee of \$150,000.

The ultra-luxe package provides guests with the very best service and accommodation that the St. Regis Maldives Vommuli Resort has to offer, as well as special additional extras to make their stay ever more memorable. Spread over 1,540 square meters, the two-storey John Jacob Astor Estate villa, which is connected to two lagoon villas, is the perfect getaway for guests seeking exclusivity and privacy.

As well as an Olympic-size infinity swimming pool, the two-storey villa also features a home theatre and its own private wellness centre. Once settled into the refined surroundings of their holiday retreat, guests can enjoy the dedicated service of a personal butler and an exquisite afternoon tea complete with champagne sabering.

The St. Regis Maldives Resort +960 676-6333 www.stregismaldives.com



A SENSE OF EXPLORATION

Revel in serenity and retreat into the intimacy of your villa sanctuary with your loved one at Banyan Tree Vabbinfaru. The magnificent Sense of Exploration package allows guests to navigate the fascinating reefs and lagoons of the North Male' atoll with a tranquil two-day sailing experience on the Kahan'bu catamaran. The package also includes daily breakfast, lunch, dinner and sunset canapés, a two-night stay at Banyan Tree Vabbinfaru in an Oceanview Pool Villa or Beachfront Pool Villa, two nights of sailing, twice-a-day guided snorkelling trips, night fishing and two luxurious sandbank dining experiences (one breakfast & one dinner) with a glass of champagne – if the weather permits!

*Banyan Tree Vabbinfaru +960 664-3147
www.banyantree.com/en/maldives/vabbinfaru*

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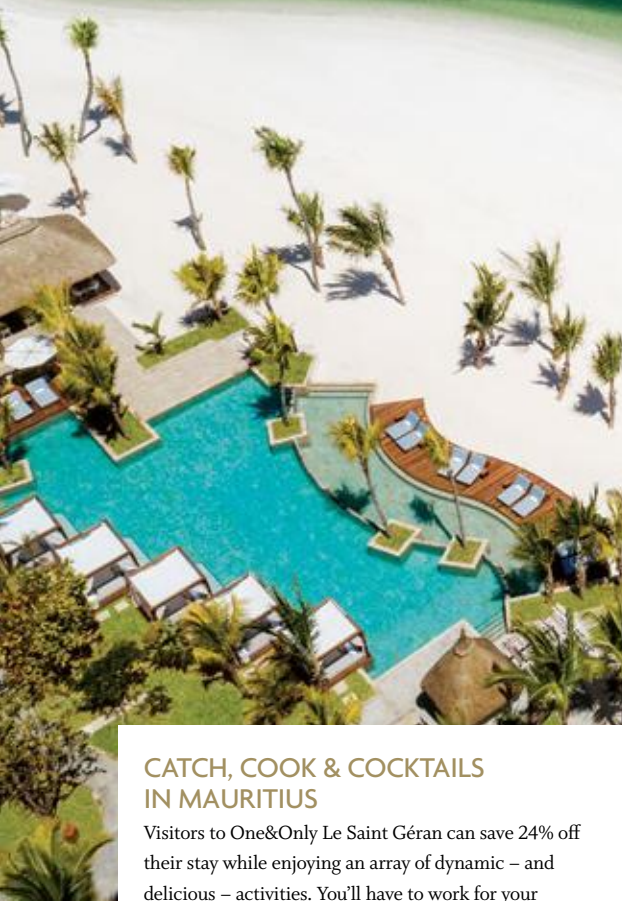


101

SOMETHING BLUE

A royal couple gets hitched and hitches a ride in an electric Jag

- 80** Travel packages to inspire your next adventure
- 86** Middle East itineraries for an elegant staycation
- 90** Grown-up pampering for travelling tots
- 92** We interview the legendary wok wizard, Ken Hom
- 94** Luxe living in Costa Rica at OCiO Villas by Casa Chameleon
- 96** Luxurious items from de Grisogono, Bovet & Bulgari
- 100** High performance cars to get your pulse racing
- 104** It has the growl, but can the new Jaguar F-Type pounce?
- 106** Two gleaming superyachts hit the water
- 108** Viking style: an epic round-the-world cruise



CATCH, COOK & COCKTAILS IN MAURITIUS

Visitors to One&Only Le Saint Géran can save 24% off their stay while enjoying an array of dynamic – and delicious – activities. You’ll have to work for your dinner, however, with a deep-sea fishing expedition to secure a fish supper. And while the chefs prepare your catch, you can enjoy apéro time at La Pointe, facing the ocean where you can stay for some stargazing after dinner on the beach. Mauritian seas can be notoriously rough, so make sure to be patient for the right fishing conditions, and the special opportunity is only available for guests staying four nights or more.

WHERE: One&Only Le Saint Géran, Mauritius

PRICE: From EUR 1,073 per night

AVAILABLE: Until December 21

www.oneandonlyresorts.com



INDIAN OCEAN

ESCAPES

Cook your catch in Mauritius, find peace in Oman and catch a sunset in Zanzibar – here are the greatest Indian Ocean escapes for the month of June

Words: Steven Bond





NORTH ISLAND COMES OF AGE

Once an abandoned copra plantation left to run wild, North Island is now a “Noah’s Ark” sanctuary where endangered species are thriving. Now, marking 21 years of luxury sustainable tourism, the resort is inviting guests to experience more of this exclusive private island paradise, with their 5-for-4 ‘Celebratory’ offer. Book a 5-night stay in June 2018 and receive one free night with the limited special offer. Guests can also combine the promotion with any other offer – and child rates mean that guests under 17 sharing the second bedroom stay for free. The Celebratory special offer replaces the 7 for 6 special offer during this month and is applicable to new bookings only.

WHERE: North Island, Seychelles

PRICE: See website

AVAILABLE: June

www.north-island.com

FIND YOUR BALANCE AT AL BALEED

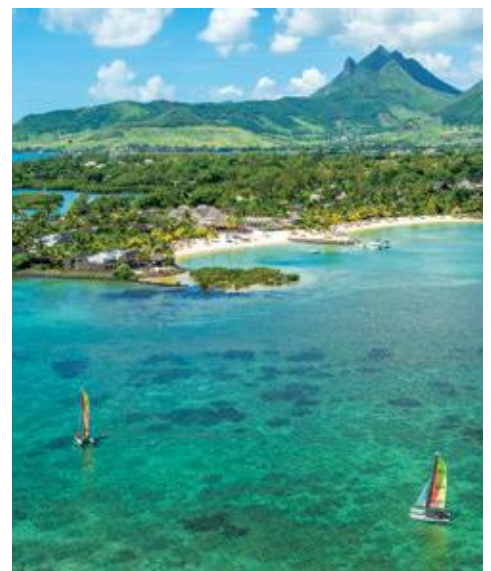
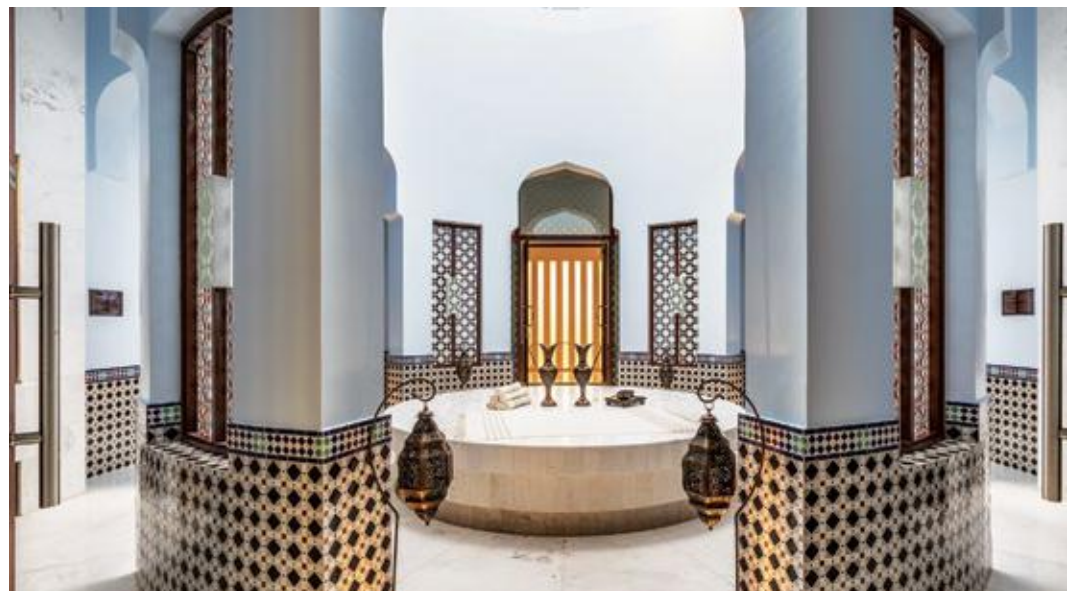
Experience the lush coastal region of Oman this summer and explore a range of wellness opportunities at Al Baleed Resort Salalah by Anantara. ‘Balance Wellness by Anantara’ is available in three, five or seven-day packages, the retreats include rejuvenating spa treatments, purification therapy and nutritious cuisine along with individual activity sessions such as yoga and hiking the beautiful mountainous coast of Salalah. And foodies fear not; dispelling the myth that health retreats mean boring meal times, the three-course wellness menu has been created by renowned Italian vegan chef Valeria Agnelutto, featuring pasta e fagioli and chickpea burgers with rosemary and parsley and veggie mayo.

WHERE: Al Baleed Resort Salalah by Anantara, Oman

PRICE: From AED 1,470

AVAILABLE: Now

www.anantara.com/en/al-baleed-salalah



A FABULOUS 40 WITH FOUR SEASONS

It’s not quite half price but it’s not far off. You can save an incredible 40% off room rates at Four Seasons Resort Mauritius at Anahita in Mauritius when you book in advance. What does that mean? Simply book online more than a week in advance to make a huge saving. What’s more, there’s complimentary daily golf, including green fees and use of the driving range and daily breakfast for two at Beau Champ restaurant or through

in-villa dining.

WHERE: Four Seasons Resort Mauritius at Anahita, Mauritius

PRICE: Via website

AVAILABLE: Now

www.fourseasons.com/mauritius



BOX FRESH FOR SUMMER

WHERE: GRAND HYATT ABU DHABI HOTEL & RESIDENCES EMIRATES PEARL
WHEN: JUNE 14 – SEPTEMBER 14

The doors of this new Abu Dhabi hotel opened June 1 but the first special promotion arrives two weeks later. The West Corniche-based hotel prides itself as a “dare-to-be-different” property and welcomes visitors for an exclusive Summer Escape, with a discount of 20% on the best Hyatt Daily Rate from June 14 until September 14, providing access to an incredible stretch of coastline, just half an hour from the airport and close to iconic landmarks such as Emirates Palace Louvre Abu Dhabi and the unmissable Sheikh Zayed Mosque.

abudhabi.grand.hyatt.com

Arabian Journeys

Summertime and the weather is scorching, but there’s plenty of fun to be had with family, friends and loved ones within these local five-star havens

SUMMER SPACATION

WHERE: CHI, THE SPA AT SHANGRI-LA
WHEN: SUMMER

Welcome the warmer months in the UAE with an indulgent ‘Spacation’ package at The Spa at Shangri-La Hotel, Qaryat Al Beri. Combine a full body massage with a complimentary dim sum lunch at the signature restaurant, Shang Palace, and a day pass to the private beach and infinity pool. For approximately \$108, guests can select their treatment and enjoy access to all the spa facilities within the relaxing, Arabesque setting. The massage can also be paired with two other treatments, for a little extra cost, including the soothing Rose & Honey Linen Wrap and the Ultra Hydrating Facial.
www.shangri-la.com/abudhabi





SWINGING ON SAADIYAT

WHERE: SAADIYAT ROTANA RESORT & VILLAS, ABU DHABI

WHEN: UNTIL DECEMBER 30

It's a little balmy on the fairway but there's still time to work on your game when you stay at Saadiyat Rotana Resort & Villas. The "Golf Escape" includes accommodation with an in-room breakfast or a buffet at Sim Sim, 18 holes for one person and transportation to and from the course. Rates start from \$421 and include access to all the five-star facilities of the brand new Rotana resort, set on a spectacular 9km stretch of pristine white beach on Abu Dhabi's breathtaking Saadiyat Island, featuring idyllic beaches that are home to indigenous Hawksbill turtles, Louvre Abu Dhabi, the upcoming Guggenheim Abu Dhabi and Zayed National Museum.

www.rotana.com

ZOOM UP TO AL ZORAH

WHERE: THE OBEROI BEACH RESORT AL ZORAH, AJMAN

WHEN: UNTIL SEPTEMBER 30 (EXCLUDING EID AND HOLIDAYS)

The Oberoi Beach Resort, Al Zorah will allow you to embrace the summer months with an tempting offer for residents and tourists alike, to experience the luxurious property and spend time in Ajman, one of the UAE's up-and-coming emirates to the north of Dubai. Guests can escape from city life to the tranquil setting of The Oberoi resort, nestled within 247 acres (one million square metres) of protected forest, with exceptional biodiversity, home to almost sixty species of bird. Offering a championship golf course, kayaking and much more, the exquisite design-led property is the ideal staycation destination this summer. Rates start from around \$300 ++ per person for a room, including a three course complimentary dinner.

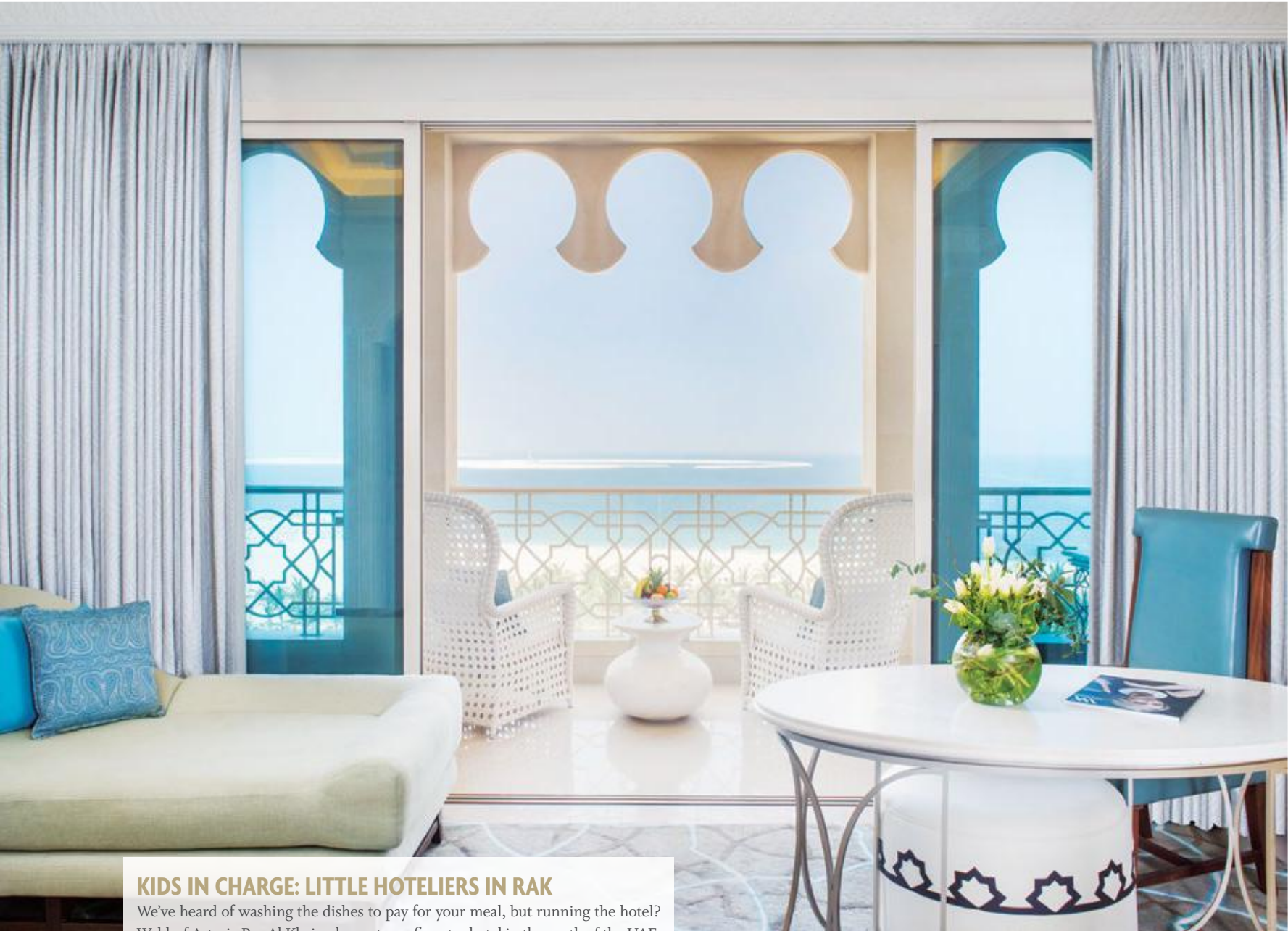
www.oberoihotels.com





NO ADULTS ALLOWED

Our pick of the best of the best travel treats for junior travellers this month, from kids' clubs that inspire and delight, to toys that will always remind them of that special family escape



KIDS IN CHARGE: LITTLE HOTELIERS IN RAK

We've heard of washing the dishes to pay for your meal, but running the hotel? Waldorf Astoria Ras Al Khaimah, a veteran five-star hotel in the north of the UAE, has rolled out "Little Hoteliers" – a half-day activity that allows your young ones to get a taste of hotel life... without being a guest.

Kids can choose from a variety of roles, including concierge, sous chef, front office and engineer, each receiving a personalised uniform and nametag. The program commences with an orientation session before the working shift begins and breaks for lunch in the canteen alongside the full-time Waldorf Astoria team. Then after the shift ends the activity ends with interviews and an awards ceremony to honour their hard work.

"Designed to empower and inspire, this project gives the youngest generation a chance to challenge themselves and think about the career they may pursue in the future," said Alan Stocker, the hotel's general manager. "We invite children to explore the rewarding world of hospitality and work together as a team with a practical learning experience."

Little Hoteliers is suitable for kids aged 8-13 and costs approximately \$55 per child. For more: rasalkhaimah.info@waldorfastoria.com



LE ROYAL RANGE ROVER: RAFFLES PARIS PUTS KIDS IN THE DRIVING SEAT

Many five-star properties will toot their own horn when it comes to their prestigious fleet of hotel cars – but how many will put a kid in the driving seat? Le Royal Monceau – Raffles Paris and Land Rover have formed a cross-Channel alliance to offer an exclusive experience for thrill-seeking families: a two-night stay in a Parisian Palace and a morning of driving Land Rovers on a closed racing circuit.

The Range Rover Experience at the Parisian hotel is a great way for parents and young adults to experience a thrill together, behind the wheel of a Range Rover and enjoying a two-night stay in a Junior Suite. The day after arrival, a professional driver will take guests to an automobile circuit located one-hour outside of Paris, comfortably seated in the latest four-wheel drive model.

The professional driver will teach all the basics and give top racing tips before putting the teen behind the wheel of a Range Rover Evoque. Daring adults, seated in the back of the car, will be able to watch their child drive. Then, following a thrilling morning, guests can recover during a lunch at the iconic Bar Long at Le Royal Monceau. The experience is available until October 31 and costs approximately \$3,645 for two people.



LAGOON LESSONS AT THE BRANDO

Desert island destinations may seem dreamy for divers, honeymooners and those content to flop on the beach for days on end, but they rarely appeal to kids. Things are a little different, however, at the ultra-luxe The Brando, which offers a special program for kids aged 6-12. The Lagoon School hosts fun, hands-on learning activities, games, and treasure hunts to teach about the island, its creatures, and the importance of being an “eco-citizen” and kids can attend talks by naturalists, explore the island, and make discoveries of their own. No notebooks and blackboards – at the lagoon school, you learn while having fun and by observing the local fauna and flora.

To make it easier for parents and youngsters, the Brando offers strollers, high chairs, bottle warmers, books and games, cradles, and excursions suitable for younger guests. Upon arrival, a welcome gift also awaits the children in the villa. The sandy beach and the lagoon are an ideal playground and the main pool is supervised. In addition, The Brando celebrates its fourth birthday next month along with Independence Day and Bastille Day – and has decided to extend its “Fly Free” transfer promotion to July 31. Guests will get free round trip tickets for inter-island flights between Tahiti and Tetiaroa for 2 adults when booking three nights or more.

PONY UP

It's the Sport of Kings but you can get your little prince or princess ready to play today. St. Regis Hotels & Resorts has launched The St. Regis Children's Polo Kit, a fully equipped polo set curated by celebrated polo player and St. Regis Connoisseur Nacho Figueras. Four wooden hobby horses, child-size wooden hand mallets, soft polo-style balls and a custom illustrated guide will come in a custom carrying bag for families to enjoy at many St. Regis resorts around the world. The set will cost EUR 1,100 + shipping.

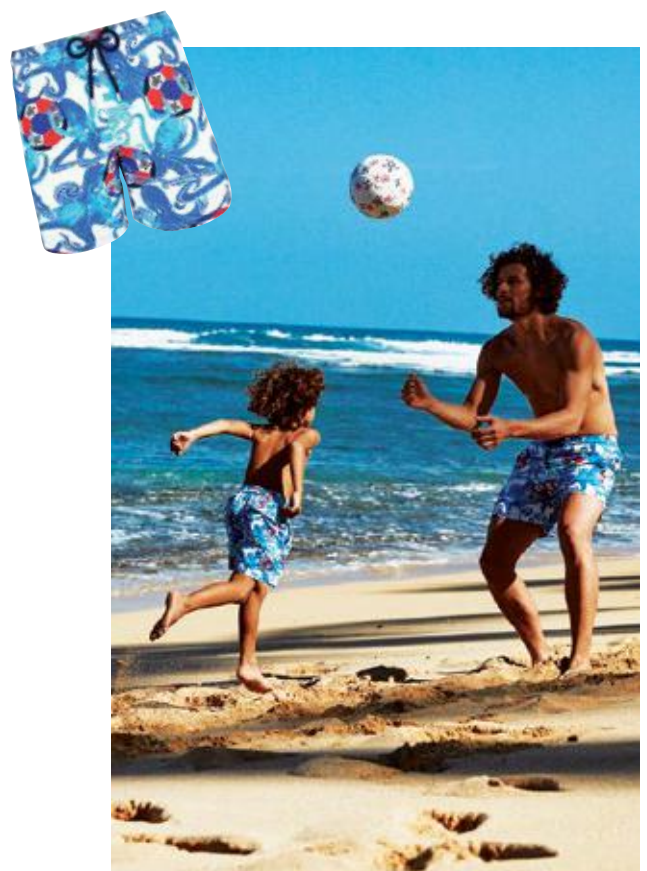
www.stregisboutique.com



THE RIGHT KIT

The football World Cup is upon us! Chances are your little Messi or Ronaldo will be glued to the screen for every big match, but these funky trunks by Vilebrequin should encourage them to get outside and play. The classic cut is dressed in a playful octopus print, with shades of blue and a touch of red stitched from 100% polyamide. This swimsuit is guaranteed to be comfy whether you're kicking a ball or just having fun in the sun with your little champion.

www.vilebrequin.com





JUNE Essentials

Nature finds a way this month, with reptilian, aquatic and horticultural themes – paired with some hints of summer. Here are our hot essentials for June.

Compiled by: Anna Zhukov

RUBIES & REPTILES

Crowned with a magnificent sapphire and refined with shimmering rubies, the Serpenti necklace sparkles with desire and with the irresistible power of attraction of its hypnotic eyes. The white gold piece has one oval-shaped brilliant cut sapphire (13.55 ct), 10 round and pearl rubies, eight round sapphires and baguette and pavé diamonds.

www.audemarspiguette.com

ALL THAT SLITHERS IS NOT GOLD

Modern, cosmopolitan and full of vibrancy, Bvlgari's Serpenti Forever backpack collection artfully captures the essence of sophistication. With vibrant colours (Flame Coral, Zephyr Quartz and Forest Emerald Green, to ethereal White and classic Black), a bold shape, jewel-like details and its seductive, serpentine inspiration, the new design is the must-have Bvlgari accessory of every fashionable city girl.

www.bulgari.com



SUMMER SWEETNESS

Brought to life in smooth mother of pearl, malachite and black onyx, each bracelet, brooch and ring features a Gelati lollipop. Though small in size, these Gelati are an evocative reminder of the Italian nation's contagious and exuberant love of life. A tempting ice cream must be bitten into, a philosophy that will appeal to women with a sense of fun, who are not afraid of seizing the moment and indulging in the most fleeting of pleasures, however simple or childlike.

www.bulgari.com



TWISTED NATURE

For these creations suffused with beauty, born perfectionist Fawaz Gruosi loves to delve into each supremely intricate detail. Each of his new ideas inspires artists to push existing limits, since the creativity of the Maison is also conveyed through the manner in which it reinvents gemsetting techniques and ancestral jewellery methods.

www.degrisogono.com



SOMETHING NEW IN BLUE

As discussed in previous editions, BOVET has a rich history of creating masterful timepieces with blue hues. With its own Manufacture de Haute with a feminine, oval-shaped case. The platinum Récital 20 Astérium (right) is also available in 18-karat red or white gold. POR.

www.bovet.com

TICKLED PINK

The Sweet Charms Pavée timepiece is dazzling in pink gold with a bezel set with round and baguette-cut diamonds, baguette-cut pink sapphires. The unabashedly feminine timepiece features diamond selection & setting, 'serti-neige' setting style.

www.vancleefarpels.com



LOBE NIBBLERS

Taking something menacing and creating something beautiful, these playful Melody of Colour earrings by Geneva jewellery house de Grisogono boast a bold and voracious sapphire, diamond and amethyst piranha fish chasing a shoal of helpless tiddlers.

www.degrisogono.com



A VISION OF LUXURY: THE NEW MERCEDES-MAYBACH



WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU SEAMLESSLY BLEND A HIGH-END saloon and a luxury SUV? The new Vision Mercedes-Maybach Ultimate Luxury combines the comfort and typical strengths of both body styles, including a lofty seating position and sleek looks that will surely be coveted by millionaire athletes and CEOs alike. The concept vehicle was unveiled at “Auto China 2018” in Beijing and mixes in Eastern influences, such as ebony interiors, traditionally used for Chinese furniture. The luxurious lightness of the interior is emphasised by the colours crystal white, finest Nappa leather and a sensual shade of brown that features a light metallic finish on the instrument panel. The Vision Mercedes-Maybach Ultimate Luxury is primarily intended for chauffeur-driven use and therefore its design is strongly focused on the rear passengers and their wellbeing. It is in the rear that the

feeling of cosy spaciousness is at its most intense. The driver’s area and cockpit are reduced to the essentials. Air vents, which reflect the design of the radiator grille, surround the freestanding Widescreen Cockpit with double 12.3 inch displays. The feeling of spaciousness is further enhanced by a light, contrasting bottom part of the instrument panel as well as by the reduced height of the dashboard.

“The Vision Mercedes-Maybach Ultimate Luxury is a totally new archetype of a kind never seen before,” says Gorden Wagener, chief design officer at Daimler AG. “Our concept combines the DNA of an SUV with that of a saloon to produce an ultra-modern SUV of three-box design,” says Wagener. “With sensuality and pure sophistication, we have created a timeless vehicle that underscores the position of Mercedes-Maybach as the ultimate luxury brand.”

PININFARINA'S PLUG-IN BABIES

ANOTHER MAJOR ANNOUNCEMENT FROM BEIJING'S Auto China 2018 comes via Pininfarina and Hybrid Kinetic Group who've added new members to their family of electric motors. The event was the world premiere for two new models, the H500 saloon, and the 4-seater K350 SUV, which were on display alongside the HK GT gran turismo.

The three cars, which share a design language in Pininfarina style, are all equipped with the electric motors with a power rating of over 300 kW, control unit and a range extender that enables a range of over 1000 km to be achieved. The three models are capable of reaching a top speed of 250 kph and acceleration from 0 to 100 kph in 4.5 seconds (the saloon) and 4.7 seconds (the SUV).

"We are creating a new range of electric vehicles together and preparing the way for their commercial debut with the presentation of the first Hybrid Kinetic produced car for the international market. The three models presented in Beijing are just another step forward in a long-term and fruitful relationship", said Pininfarina COO Silvio Pietro Angori.



DID YOU KNOW?

THE SP38, FERRARI'S LATEST BESPOKE EDITION, USES THE CHASSIS AND RUNNING GEAR FROM A 488 GTB. THE STUNNING RED MACHINE WAS REPORTEDLY BUILT FOR ONE OF FERRARI'S MOST DEDICATED CUSTOMERS WHO HAS A "DEEP PASSION FOR RACING".

GEE! MERCEDES' OFF-ROAD ICON GETS TWEAKED

THE G-CLASS, THE LUXURY OFF-ROAD VEHICLE FROM Mercedes-Benz, has long been considered a design icon – and its external appearance has not changed significantly since 1979. With the latest update, the off-road icon - which has been continually enhanced technically over the decades but visually has hardly changed - is making the leap into a new era – both in terms of technology and form. The new G-Class is 53 mm longer and 64 mm wider, and now has even greater presence both on and off the road. And while the exterior maintains the iconic classic look, the interior of the G-Class has undergone a fundamental modern redesign.

ELECTRIC BLUE: THE JAGUAR E-TYPE ZERO

WHO WAS THE REAL STAR AT THE ROYAL WEDDING LAST month? Women around the world fawned over Amal Clooney's yellow outfit, and David Beckham made men green with envy, but a wedding wouldn't be complete without something blue...

When they weren't waving from their horse-drawn carriage, the happy couple were transported via the latest incarnation of the classic Jaguar E-type, which was unveiled at last year's Jaguar Land Rover Tech Fest in London. The E-type Zero is based on 1968 Series 1.5 Jaguar E-type Roadster and now boasts a fully electric powertrain, totally original in specification with modified instrumentation, fascia and LED headlights are for energy efficiency.

"E-type Zero combines the renowned E-type dynamic experience with enhanced performance through electrification. This unique combination creates a breathtaking driving sensation," said Tim Hannig, director, Jaguar Land Rover Classic. "Our aim with E-type Zero is to future-proof classic car ownership. We're looking forward to the reaction of our clients as we investigate bringing this concept to market."



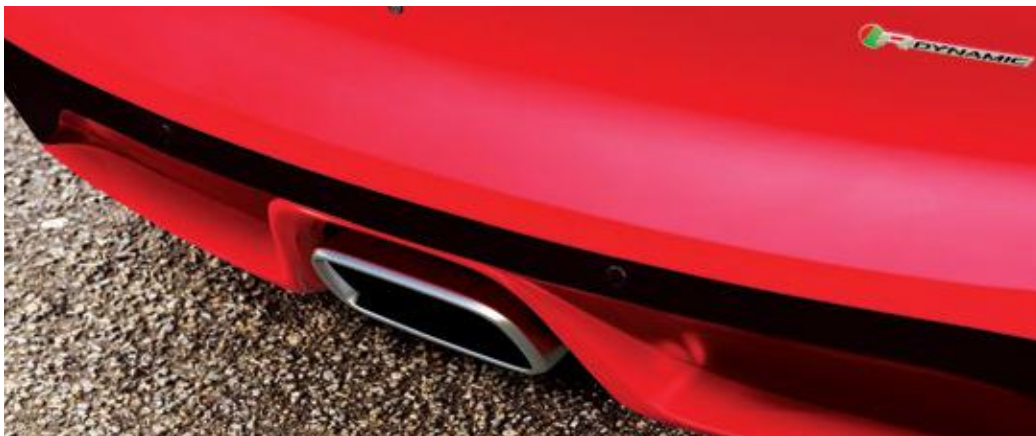


THE ROARING JAGUAR

Is it all show – or can the 2018 F-Type really go?
Kris Karacinski rekindles his affair with the new Jaguar after roaring
around town in a previous edition.



GB VF17 FAU



The Jaguar F-Type has always had a special place in my heart. It's where my car reviews began way back in 2015 and I felt it was time to go back and see what the latest 2018 edition has to offer.

Aesthetically, there's not a lot to shout about. It's had facelifts over the years but it's still an undeniably sexy car that's readily identifiable as a Jaguar F-Type. Inside is also much the same. The steering wheel has a near identical layout to prior models, all very functional and ergonomic, which extends to the seating, which is suitably sporty and holds your derriere well enough without any squashing.

I was fortunate to once again be given the keys to a convertible model, where it was instantly obvious that the roof would hinder visibility somewhat at the rear. Facing forward, however, the infotainment display has been updated. The graphics are sharp and the sat nav is one of the best I've come across to date. As with the 2015 edition, the car comes with a Meridian Audio sound system and I was eager to experience those warm tones again... but the 2018 speakers left me a little disappointed, as did the driving experience.

This F-Type R Dynamic has a 2.0-litre, 295BHP, 4-cylinder Turbocharged Petrol engine that delivers strong performance from 0-60kph – yes that's not 60mph, just 60kph – with an official 0-100kph time of 5.7 seconds. In the summer heat, with the air conditioning working hard and a full tank of fuel, I found it was taking a little longer than 5.7 seconds to get to 100kph, and this was in full Dynamic (Sports) mode. As you would imagine it took considerably longer with Dynamic Mode disengaged.

It's not all bad news, though. Jaguar has done a decent job at making this little 2.0-litre, 4-cylinder engine sound aggressive. A large stylish exhaust lets out a decent rumble with some pleasing pops as you cycle down the gears. The lighter

engine at the front makes steering near effortless. Being rear-wheel drive it's still possible to have a little bit of fun in it. Due to the lack of power you shouldn't find yourself inadvertently doing donuts.

If you're an experienced driver and you're looking to get yourself a stylish two-seater sports car then I'd recommend the F-Type, but with the V6 engine as a minimum. If you have a son or daughter who's just passed their test and they're nagging you for a sporty little number I'd highly recommend this car; they'll be the envy of all their friends. It's not powerful enough to get them into much trouble and the fuel economy is actually very good so they won't keep asking for handouts to fill it up.

Even if they drive aggressively, the 70-litre tank will do approximately 7.2L per 100km while cruising around the city. Personally, after two days driving the car around Dubai, the fuel level hardly dropped (if there wasn't a digital display I'd have thought the needle was broken). Three years on, the original F-Type shines brighter than this new incarnation. However, as I said, if you're a young reasonably new driver then this F-type is still undeniably sexy and will tick a lot of your boxes until you're ready to move up to a car with more performance.

NUTS & BOLTS

ENGINE: 2.0L
0-100 KPH: 5.7 seconds
MAX POWER: 295 bhp
TOP SPEED: 250 kmh
PRICE: Reviewed model AED 316,155 (US \$86,082.45)



**“JAGUAR HAS DONE A DECENT JOB AT
MAKING THIS LITTLE 2.0-LITRE, 4-CYLINDER
ENGINE SOUND AGGRESSIVE”**

Sail away

GOLDEN YACHTS/O'PTASIA

Translated in Greek as 'vision', the name O'Ptasia was selected to reflect the yacht's elegance and luxury. The 85-metre Golden Yachts masterpiece was built in 2007 but only recently entered the waters of Greece, joining the ranks of the 100 largest yachts in the world. The vessel can accommodate 14-16 guests across seven spacious staterooms, including one Master on the main deck, one VIP on the upper deck and two doubles and two twins on the lower. The Master cabin spans almost 30sqm, with a vanity desk, walk-in closet, and a large bathroom with Jacuzzi – as well as a dedicated office. The VIP suite on the upper deck is stylishly minimalist, dressed in beige with a large seating area for entertaining, unless you simply want to splay yourself out in the space while you enjoy panoramic views through the huge windows. Each room has a decidedly different feel due to the selections of various wood tones throughout the yacht, but surely everyone will adore the beach club deck with a steam room, massage room, bar, outdoor shower. There's also a pool on sundeck and a helipad for high flyers who will be thrilled to know O'Ptasia is now available for charters. www.goldenyachts.gr

Length overall: 51.8m

Beam (max): 9m

Draft: 2.6m

Cruising speed: 18

Interiors: Studio Vafiadis



ON THE WATER THIS MONTH

MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL BOAT SHOW 2018

Melbourne Exhibition Centre, Australia
 June 28 – July 1
www.melbourneinternationalboatshow.com.au

THE SUPERYACHT CUP PALMA 2018

Palma, Mallorca
 June 19-23
www.thesuperyachtcup.com

NEWPORT CHARTER SHOW 2018

Newport, Rhode Island
 June 18 – 21
www.newportchartershow.com

LES VOILES D'ANTIBES 2018

Antibes Juan les Pins, France
 May 30 – June 3
www.voilesdantibes.com



Length overall: 21.37m
 Hull length: 20.3m
 Beam max : 5.3 m
 Draft: 1.69
 Max speed: 36 knots



AZIMUT YACHTS S7

The 57th edition of Milano Design Week – La Triennale di Milano – played host to the reveal of Azimut's S7, a 21-metre vessel that was certainly one of the stars of the show. The boat's full-beam master stateroom spans 204 square feet and the hull-side windows provide impressive vistas and brighten the interiors. When it comes to play time, the yacht's transom garage accommodates a 10-foot-7-inch tender, plus a personal watercraft.

The S7 is powered with triple 800 mhp Volvo Penta IPS1050 diesels, which the builder says give the yacht a 35-knot top hop and a 31-knot cruise speed. Her modified-V hull form, with 13.8 degrees of deadrise aft, should get her onto plane easily and keep her stable when running at speed. But the tech is not limited to build materials – with Volvo Penta's active trim control, the system can automatically adjust the Interceptor trim tabs in real time to maintain the yacht's running attitude in an ever-changing sea state.

BOUCHERON

PARIS

