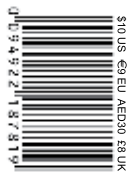


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THE TAMING OF THE BULL

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A CHIC STAY
AT FIVE PALM JUMEIRAH

MODEL TURN
KAIA GERBER STEPS INTO THE SPOTLIGHT

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MINOR HOTELS MAJORS
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LONDON THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS

AS THE BATTLE RAGES AMONG LONDON HOTELS FOR THE BIGGEST, brightest, boldest signature suites, the city’s leading properties never stop reinventing themselves. Enter the new Pavilion Suites at The Berkeley: two fabulous new two-bedroom abodes at this Knightsbridge hotspot, both with wrap-around glass walls and huge terraces overlooking the rooftops of London.

Created by AFSO designer and architect Andre Fu – of The Upper House (Hong Kong) and The Fullerton Bay Hotel (Singapore) fame – both suites are understated and elegant, with muted tones and acres of marble spilling from the bathrooms. Glass walls allow light to flood into the Crescent Pavilion, a

2,300 sq ft space made even more voluminous by the clever use of stained oak partitions, rather than solid walls, to define the transition between living areas: a dining space that seats eight; an 800-sq ft glasshouse; and a living room with views towards St. Paul’s Cathedral.

Both \$25,000-per-night suites grant their occupants access to the hotel’s Signature Service treatment, which includes private concierge, the use of a Burberry Trench Coat throughout their stay, access to an in-suite mixologist from the hotel’s Blue Bar, and dining from two Michelin-starred masterchef Marcus Wareing served in the suite.

LUXURY LIVING IN MONTENEGRO

Anyone who has visited Montenegro in the past few years will know that the little-known jewel on the Adriatic coast is fast becoming a magnet for well-heeled travellers. New developments like the gleaming Porto Montenegro and Aman’s to-die-for Sveti Stefan resort have put the destination on the luxury travel map for the first time, and the launch of Luštica Bay in July will add yet another gem to the tiny country’s heavily-laden crown.

The new development, which will ultimately feature seven hotels, an 18-hole Gary Player championship golf course with associated golf villas, a 176-berth marina and more than 1,500 apartments, villas and townhouses, is taking shape on a peninsula jutting out into the Bay of Kotor; a 690-hectare plot of land commanding jaw-dropping views over the mesmerising waters of the Adriatic.

Only 10 per cent of that space will be developed, leaving the rest in pristine condition so visitors and residents can pursue healthy and active lifestyles via hiking, biking and nature trails, a four kilometre seafront promenade and a wealth of sea-based activities such as sailing and kayaking.

“What we offer is peace, quiet and nature,” says Nevine Coutry, managing director of Vcom Marketing. “A lot of our homeowners are coming to us because they want to get away from it all and you can find that peace here, with just the sound of the birds and the waves. That’s a new luxury. It’s a place you can be at peace and not be switched on.”



This summer will see the first guests check into The Chedi Luštica Bay, the Asian hotel brand’s second resort in Europe after its debut property in Andermatt, Switzerland, which was also created in partnership with the project’s master developer, Orascom. Designed by architect Aaron Gentry, The Chedi will feature 110 rooms (60 of which will be The Chedi Residences) two restaurants, indoor and outdoor swimming pools and a first class spa.



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LA DOLCE VITA IN DUBAI



SET IN DUBAI'S NEW CULTURE VILLAGE, NORTHEAST OF DOWNTOWN on the banks of the Creek, Palazzo Versace Dubai resembles a 16th-century Italian palace, with as much passion and craftsmanship imbued into its design and décor as a couturier spends on a gown, the hotel is a glamorous tribute to the Milan-based fashion house.

If you are a Versace lover, the immersion will delight you. There are countless representations of the fashion powerhouse throughout the hotel, from the striking geometry of the Greek key – another Versace signature – to Versace-prints encasing cushions atop neoclassical chairs. Many were created exclusively for the hotel, featuring icons of the region, such as the falcon, the peacock, and the Arabian horse.

Down the hallways, off either side of the lobby, the walls are lined with sketches of Donatella's and Gianni's Atelier Versace gowns, and scarves framed like the pieces of art they are. For guests overcome by the lure of the brand, there are boutiques, though it's not just the adults who can clad themselves in all things Versace. There is even a Versace boutique just for children, conveniently located opposite the kids' club, where some of the house's designs are even printed onto the soft-play floor mats.

The hotel has 150 rooms and 65 suites, all embodying the DNA of the brand in turquoise, blue, beige and salmon hues, though on the ninth-floor, where many of the premium suites are located, the palette transforms into gold. Gold carpets lead the way to your door, which opens to ceilings that soar a good five metres high. With carved boiseries and silk furnishings at every turn, the



windows are hung with floor-to-ceiling curtains, while the floors are a mix of polished timber parquetry, marble and plush carpet.

Forget a plane ticket to anywhere in Italia – Palazzo Versace Dubai is your ticket to a stylised state of bliss and a true taste of 'la dolce vita'.

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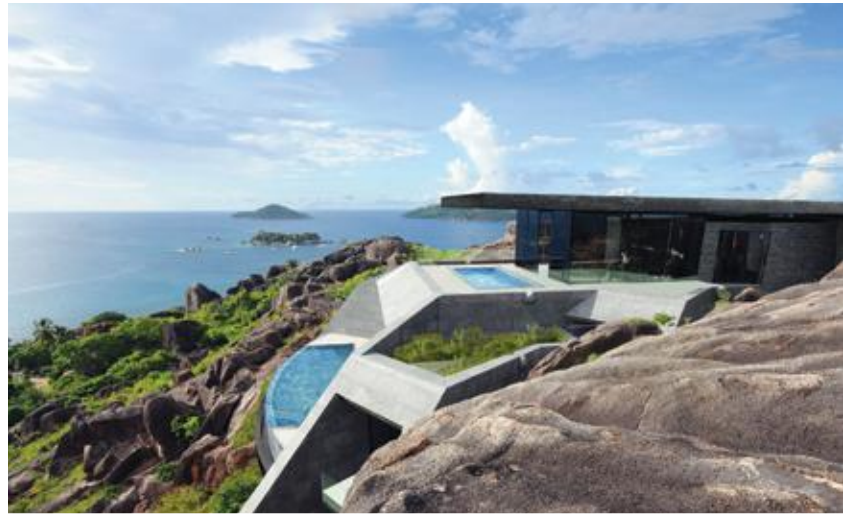
FAMILY AFFAIR AT SIX SENSES ZIL PASYON

THE ACHINGLY GORGEOUS SIX SENSES ZIL PASYON IN THE Seychelles has upped its multi-gen travel game, with the addition of two new palatial residences. Built on a granite hillside above the rest of the resort, the three- and four-bedroom abodes are architectural marvels of steel and glass that seem to grow out of the rocky landscape.

Both residences are set over two levels, with a window-wrapped master suite and glass-bottom plunge pool on the upper level, and the remaining en suite bedrooms, communal areas and main family infinity pool on the lower floor. Light pours into the 12-foot high communal dining room and living area via floor-to-ceiling windows and the glass bottom of the pool above, and the poolside terrace commands spectacular views of the Indian Ocean beyond.

A private kitchen means personal chefs can prepare lunch or dinner in the comfort of the residence; an option that will come in handy if you're travelling with the entire family. Guest experience managers (GEMs) are on hand to tailor make itineraries suitable for all, and there's always a buggy on standby to take guests down to the main resort, where the Six Senses Spa draws inspiration from the natural environment of the island setting, and six restaurants offer plenty of options for intimate dining when it's time for a night away from the family.

The only resort on the jaw-dropping island of Félicité, Zil Pasyon has a further 30 one- and two-bedroom pool villas dotted across the island, from beachfront escapes to hillside retreats. The three-bedroom residence starts from US \$11,421 per night and the four-bedroom residence from US \$12,182.



DID
YOU
HEAR?

EACH OF THE SEVEN LUXURY TENTS AT THE SAFARI COLLECTION'S SALA'S CAMP IN THE SERENGETI NOW FEATURE THEIR OWN PRIVATE PLUNGE POOL AND OUTDOOR DECK – JUST WATCH OUT FOR HIPPOS.

NOT YOUR AVERAGE SAFARI



LOOKING FOR AN OFF-THE-BEATEN PATH SAFARI DESTINATION where your visit directly helps local communities and wildlife? Look no further than Singita Pamushana in Zimbabwe's Malilangwe Reserve; a 130,000-acre wilderness that's teeming with wildlife.

Pasmushana reopens in May following a major overhaul that sees the addition of two new two-bedroom suites to complement the six existing suites, and a five-bedroom villa for larger groups. New interiors reflect the culture of the Shangaan people for which the Malilangwe area is known, with design and decor paying tribute to traditional African

patterns and natural colours: ochre tan, ebony black and ivory white, with some gold and brass elements for a touch of modern bling.

Guests can peer out from their private plunge pools using the house telescopes to look for wildlife on the shore of the Malilangwe Dam below the lodge; set out into the reserve on an early morning, afternoon or night time game drive; or join a guided bush walk to a viewing hide to look out for black and white rhino at one of the area's watering holes. All-inclusive rates at Singita Pamushana start from US \$1,495 per person per night.

www.lilybeachmaldives.com



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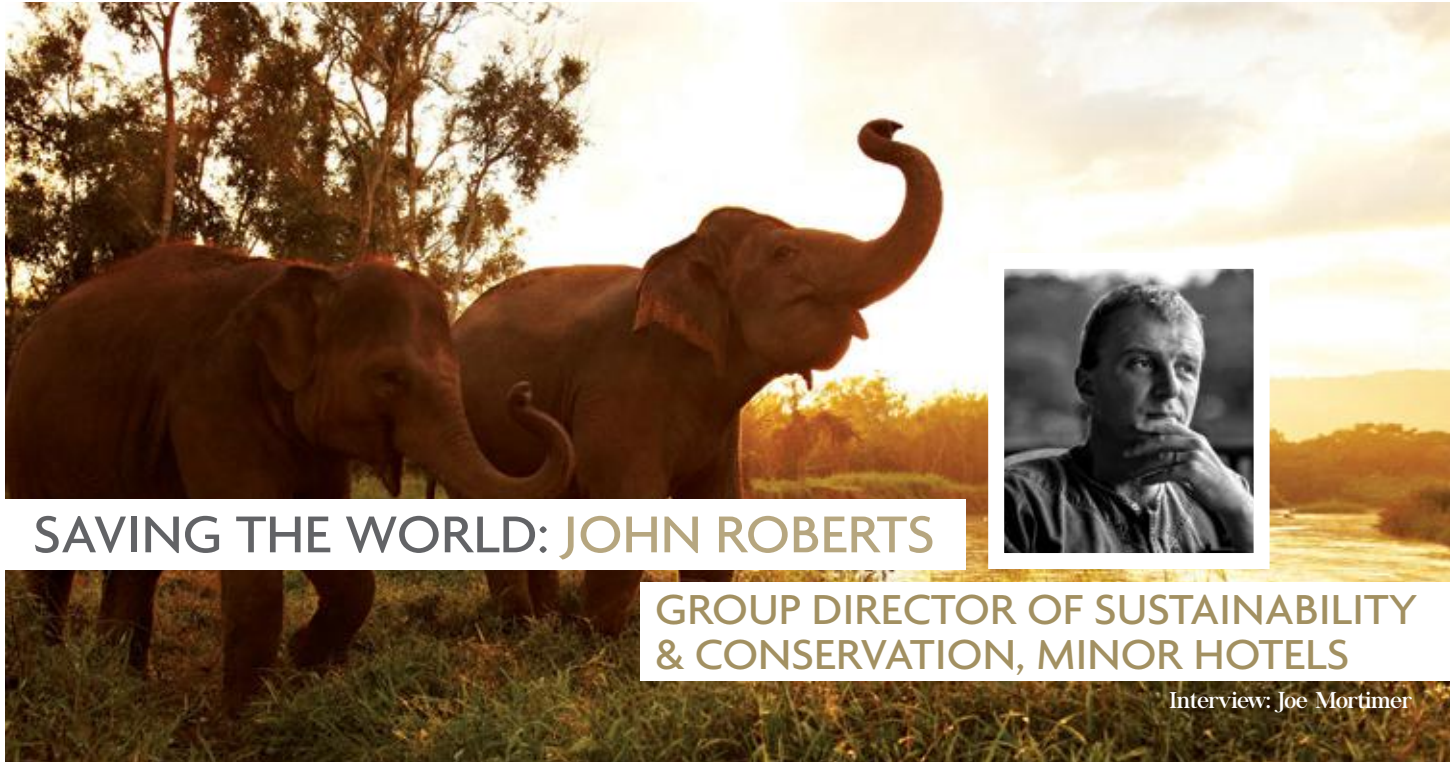


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SAVING THE WORLD: JOHN ROBERTS

GROUP DIRECTOR OF SUSTAINABILITY
& CONSERVATION, MINOR HOTELS

Interview: Joe Mortimer



From banning plastic straws at Anantara and Avani resorts to using recycled water for irrigation, Minor International is at the forefront of sustainable tourism

You recently banned plastic straws at Anantara and Avani resorts. Why?

We have been working on various means to reduce single-use plastic for several years, as part of Green Growth 2050 (our independent auditor) and independently. The straws were our second target, after plastic bottles, which we were able to mostly eliminate from rooms fairly quickly. We found the various 'soft' ways to eliminate straws weren't working, as both our customers and staff (like most of the post-industrial human race, it seems) were hardwired to use a straw. So the decision was made just to go "cold turkey" and give our operations three months to prepare and then just ban. Sometimes it takes a short sharp shock to change behaviours long term.

Is that part of a wider programme to reduce plastic waste?

Yes, we drive to reduce wherever we can, and recycle where we can't; both with physical things and energy, water etc. Part of the Green Growth 2050 certification that we have been members of since 2008 is to create pressure on all hotels to continuously find ways to reduce, reuse and recycle.

What initiatives do you run to combat waste?

One of my favourites is the use of Winnow [technology] in Anantara Siam; a system to reduce food waste at a kitchen level. In the second half of 2017, they managed to avoid wasting 1.6 tonnes of food, cutting food waste by 70 per cent and in the process, saving some US\$14,000. Elsewhere we go for intensive composting; growing our own ingredients to save food miles; and

waste water recycling, as in all our Middle East properties [such as] Anantara Al Jabal Al Akhdar in Oman, where the local villages have used 'grey water' for centuries to grow the Middle East's best roses and pomegranates high in the desert mountains. Nothing is new in this world; we can learn a lot from our elders and our neighbours.

How do you reconcile sustainable ideas with high-end luxury?

If you do it well and are prepared to do the work behind the scenes, sustainability can be achieved without any impact on service; even conspicuous consumption need not lead to conspicuous waste. Luxury hotels are often in a better position to provide sustainability, as they are better placed to invest in energy efficient equipment, slightly more expensive alternatives to plastic bottles, and pay a little bit extra to ensure even the 'difficult-to-recycle' items such as batteries and cooking fat do get recycled. And of course, the action that started this conversation: investing in biodegradable straws and being prepared for them to be taken as souvenirs. Plus we find that 'conspicuous consumption' isn't what guests define as luxury anymore; the traveller who is searching for luxury is, more often than not, also looking for sustainable touches.

To find out more about John Roberts' work with the Golden Triangle Asian Elephant Foundation and learn more about Anantara's work with local communities, read the full interview at www.dotwnews.com.

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**Tristan Dowell, Vice President Global Luxury,
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SMELL THE ROSES AT THE PENINSULA BEVERLY HILLS

THERE ARE PLENTY OF GOLDEN MOMENTS TO BE HAD AT THE PENINSULA Beverly Hills, one of the most stylish hotels in Los Angeles and popular haunt among the city's glitterati. Fresh from a makeover fit for an A-lister, the hotel's 195 guestrooms radiate refined luxury in three unique colour palettes, with muted natural tones brightened up with floral curtains and splashes of vibrant colour via bright sofa cushions and floral displays.

Beverly Hills-based interior design firm Forchielli Glynn is behind the redesign, which blends five-star luxury with a distinctly residential feel, particularly in the 38 suites and 17 private villas, which feature generously proportioned living areas decorated with floral prints and stylish furniture; some with outdoor patios overlooking the hotel's lush gardens.

Peninsula guests have a variety of vehicles at their disposal for getting around Beverly Hills like a star, from a chauffeur-driven Rolls-Royce to a nippy Mini Cooper S Clubman. For a glimpse into a day in the life of a Hollywood A-lister, the hotel can arrange a red carpet style photoshoot in the suite, including a professional stylist, rented tux (for the gents) or ballgown (for the ladies) and a shoot with photographer to the stars, Ryan Forbes.

The luxury perks aren't limited to human guests; pampered pooches are provided with comfy beds, personalised towels and a dedicated menu with treats such as 'Brutus' filet mignon' available, and for the ultimate treat, how about a 45-minute in-room doggy massage?

DID YOU HEAR

THE DREW LAS VEGAS IS SET TO OPEN IN SIN CITY BY LATE 2020. THE ENORMOUS INTEGRATED RESORT WILL BE ANCHORED BY TWO LUXURY HOTELS: AN EDITION AND A JW MARRIOTT



EXPLORE THE GALAPAGOS IN STYLE

OFF THE BEATEN TRACK EXPEDITIONS IN THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS just became a little more comfortable, following the re-launch of Pikaia Lodge's excursion yacht M/Y Pikaia I. The 105-foot yacht has a new sun deck on which guests can soak in the rays en route to and from excursions to the archipelago's remote islands, and a new-look dining room for lunch or breakfast on those early morning starts. Eight staterooms with double or single berths provide a private space for guests to freshen up or relax during time at sea on the Pacific, but with so much going around them, we doubt people will spend much time below deck.

The luxury eco-lodge, perched on the rim of an extinct crater on Santa Cruz Island, has also ended its strict arrivals policy, whereby guests could only arrive on a Monday or Friday. Visitors can now make the 1,300-kilometre journey from Ecuador's capital Quito any day of the week, with alternating land and yacht-based itineraries to explore the hidden coves and islets and abundant bird and marine life of the UNESCO Natural World Heritage Site.

TRIBUTE PORTFOLIO SHINES A LIGHT ON NEW YORK STATE

THE OPENING OF THE WICK HOTEL AT 41 CROSS Street in Hudson marks the arrival in New York State of Marriott International's Tribute Portfolio – a collection of independent boutique hotels in destinations around the world. Situated in a former soap and candle factory, The Wick blends contemporary interiors with vintage industrial elements: original 1860s hardwood floors, candle-making posters and landscapes from the Hudson River School art movement, which hang in each of the 48 guestrooms and seven suites.

Keeping it local, the hotel's lobby bar works with local beverage producers and food suppliers within Hudson's creative community to present a menu of signature cocktails and light bites, and therapists from nearby Bodhi Holistic Spa provide massage and body treatments. If you don't fancy the two-hour train ride from New York City's Penn Station, you could always bring your electric car: three charging stations for Tesla and other electric vehicles mean it's easy being green in this urban chic hideaway.



Debut | March

HOT HOTELS, CHIC BOUTIQUES AND EXCLUSIVE NEW RESORTS
HERE'S OUR PICK OF THE WORLD'S MOST LUXURIOUS NEW LAUNCHES



MOMBO & LITTLE MOMBO Okavango Delta, Botswana

Guests at Mombo Camp have watched the circle of life play out on the Okavango Delta for almost 30 years, as lion and leopard hunt bountiful game on the floodplains of Moremi Game Reserve. Now, the camp enters its fourth incarnation after a major rebuild that has seen all nine tented suites expanded and redecorated. Larger decks, swing beds and plunge pools are elevated above the floodplain, and a complete design makeover sets new standards in safari-chic. Inside, brass fixtures and copper-clad fireplaces give the suites a sense of refined vintage luxury, with weathered leather sofas and mismatched furniture adding a personal, curated feel.

On the other side of Chief's Island, Mombo's sister camp, Little Mombo, has also received the luxury treatment, with double marble sinks and copper bathtubs in the bathrooms of its three tents, and private salas on the viewing decks to bring guests even close to nature. The dining offering has been reborn across both lodges, with a new focus on out-of-camp dining, interactive culinary experiences and traditional local cuisine given a modern twist: think Botswana beef fillet, ostrich and apricot tagine followed by milk tart spring rolls with cinnamon ice-cream. Roughing it never felt so good.

www.wilderness-safaris.com

HOTEL ES PRINCEP Palma, Mallorca

Built just a few steps away from the eastern corner of the mighty wall that once protected Palma de Mallorca from foreign invaders, Hotel es Princep gazes out at the Mediterranean like a contemporary watchtower; a 21st century addition to a 16th century fortification. Located in the historic centre of Palma, the hotel's 68 rooms and suites feature a pared back, understated design that let the views through the floor-to-ceiling windows do the talking. From 22 sqm Standard Rooms to the top floor 55 sqm Signature Suites, all rooms feature amenities from New York's Le Labo and Nespresso coffee machines.

Those sea views achieve peak wow on the rooftop lounge and pool terrace, Almaq, which looks out across the Bay of Palma and the city's historic centre. Downstairs, local cuisine is celebrated in chef Andreu Genestra's signature restaurant Bala Roja (which means Red Bullet, after the cannonballs which once defended the promontory) and creative cocktails are poured at sultry Gremium.

www.esprincep.com



TAJ EXOTICA RESORT & SPA, ANDAMANS Andaman Islands, India

The Andamans might be the hottest island destination you've never heard of, but a luxury hotel opening is set to change all that. Touching down on Havelock Island – one of more than 300 in the archipelago floating between India and Myanmar – Taj Exotica Resort & Spa will be the Andamans' first luxury hotel. Situated on the shores of Radhanagar Beach.

Think white, crescent-shaped shoreline fringed with lush, dense greenery and azure waters – the resort comprises 75 villas with rustic pitched roofs in the style of the indigenous Jawara tribe. Spread over 30 acres, the resort is also home to Jiva Spa and three restaurants featuring everything from the coastal curries of the Bay of Bengal and innovative dishes using homegrown ingredients to explore Southeast Asian, Tamil, Keralan and Bengali cuisine; to a carefully curated selection of international Taj signature dishes. www.tajhotels.com





**FOUR SEASONS RESORT SEYCHELLES
AT DESROCHES ISLAND**
Desroches Island, Seychelles

If it's the full luxury castaway experience you're seeking, look no further than Four Seasons Resort Seychelles at Desroches Island, an Indian Ocean hideaway surrounded by 14km of pristine white sand, acres of tropical forest and some of the most mesmerising marine life in the world.

As the only resort on the island, guests can roam free, spending their days exploring the beaches by bicycle or kayak with a picnic from The Deli, or learning about the island's flora and fauna at the Discovery Centre.

The 71 rustic-chic beachfront villas, suites and bungalows each have their own private pool and garden, with indoor-outdoor bathrooms and the kinds of in-room comforts that Robinson Crusoe could only have dreamed of: deep-soaking bathtubs, poolside cabanas, bicycles and butler service to name a few.

www.fourseasons.com



THE RITZ-CARLTON RAS AL KHAIMAH,
Al Hamra Beach, Ras Al Khaimah, UAE

This debut will elevate beachfront luxury on the northern shores of the UAE. Guests can choose from two types of villa: The Al Naseem Villas are inspired by traditional Bedouin architecture and the Al Bahar Villas include open views and private beachfront access. www.ritzcarlton.com





Kaia Gerber commands the runway for CHANEL Spring-Summer 2018 Ready-to-Wear collection at the Grand Palais

A MODEL STUDENT

From algebra class to the cover of Paris Vogue, **Kaia Gerber** is experiencing the kind of meteoric rise to supermodel status that eclipses even that of her fabled mother, Cindy Crawford

Of course, when you're the carbon copy of one of the most successful models of all time it's only natural that stardom comes quickly. With three million Instagram followers and counting, the 16-year-old Kaia Gerber has already emerged as a master of the social media universe and there seems no stopping her from fulfilling her destiny as the world's next great supermodel.

During the past year, Gerber enjoyed a stunning catwalk debut, strutting the runway for Prada, Fendi, Saint Laurent, Miu Miu, Prada, Moschino, et al. She's also signed lucrative contracts as the face of Marc Jacobs Daisy, Alexander Wang, and Miu Miu to put her on the fast track as the hottest young model since Cara Delevingne. But in marked contrast with Cara's surly manner and ambivalent attitude towards the industry, Gerber is a remarkably pleasant and level-headed young woman who takes a relaxed approach to modelling and worries more about homework than eye shadow.

"I go to school every day, and that does come first," she says. "I use my free time for work, but because I love it so much, it doesn't feel like work and I still have fun with it. I don't really have days where I can sit and do nothing!"

Blessed with a lanky, long-legged frame, the 5'9" Gerber (she's exactly the same height as her mom!) is a both a genetic marvel and a grateful daughter who listens to her mother's advice while following in her footsteps.

"My mom is very much about 'less is more,'" she says. "She showed me how to use makeup to enhance your beauty, but not to change your face, which I think is important. Also, she never really had rules about makeup when I was younger."

"She let me wear as much makeup as I wanted, which I think was good, because she let me make a lot of mistakes. And now that I'm older, unless I'm working, I won't wear makeup."

For her part, Cindy Crawford has no qualms about her daughter's fledgling modelling career which is taking off at the time most girls enter the business and is more concerning

over Gerber's debut as a driver than a catwalk debutante.

"In some ways, I wish I could have pushed it off a year or two, said Crawford. "But she's 16. That's how old I was when I started, which is young, but in fashion that's kind of the normal age when people start."

"My daughter just got her driver's licence. I'm a lot more concerned about her driving by herself than her entering the world of modelling."

What sets Gerber apart from other aspiring models is that she has had her mother to guide her in all aspects of the fashion world. Her father, Rande Gerber, is also on hand to assist her the business side of things, having enjoyed a successful career as a restaurateur, entrepreneur, and co-founder (along with good friend George Clooney) of Casamigos Tequila, which he recently sold for a cool \$1 billion. One of the benefits of growing up with famous parents is that Gerber isn't overawed and won't be overwhelmed by her sudden celebrity status.

"My parents have always taught me to be myself and to follow my instincts," she reveals "They also say that you should never let what other people do affect what you want to do. It changes everything when you accept who you are, and you don't try to change yourself."

Staying "true to herself" is the leitmotiv that best characterises Gerber's philosophical take on her nascent celebrity. She gives the impression of being a "good girl" who takes after her mother Cindy's highly professional and disciplined work ethic.

Crawford, during her reign at the top of the modelling world in the 80s and 90s was noted for generally avoiding the hard-partying ways of her profession and leading a healthy lifestyle that was part of her overall image as the fittest of the first wave of so-called "supermodels." That natural, clean-living attitude has been passed down to Gerber although the teenager prefers to sports-related exercise to doing weights or Pilates.

"I don't go to the gym everyday like most people," she states. "I prefer to do fun activities like dancing, boxing or walks in Malibu...I like to feel fit and healthy, but I would rather stay

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A PLACE ON THE PALM
FIVE Hotel Palm Jumeirah offers a relaxing stay, with incredible facilities, delightful dining options and a rather captivating vista

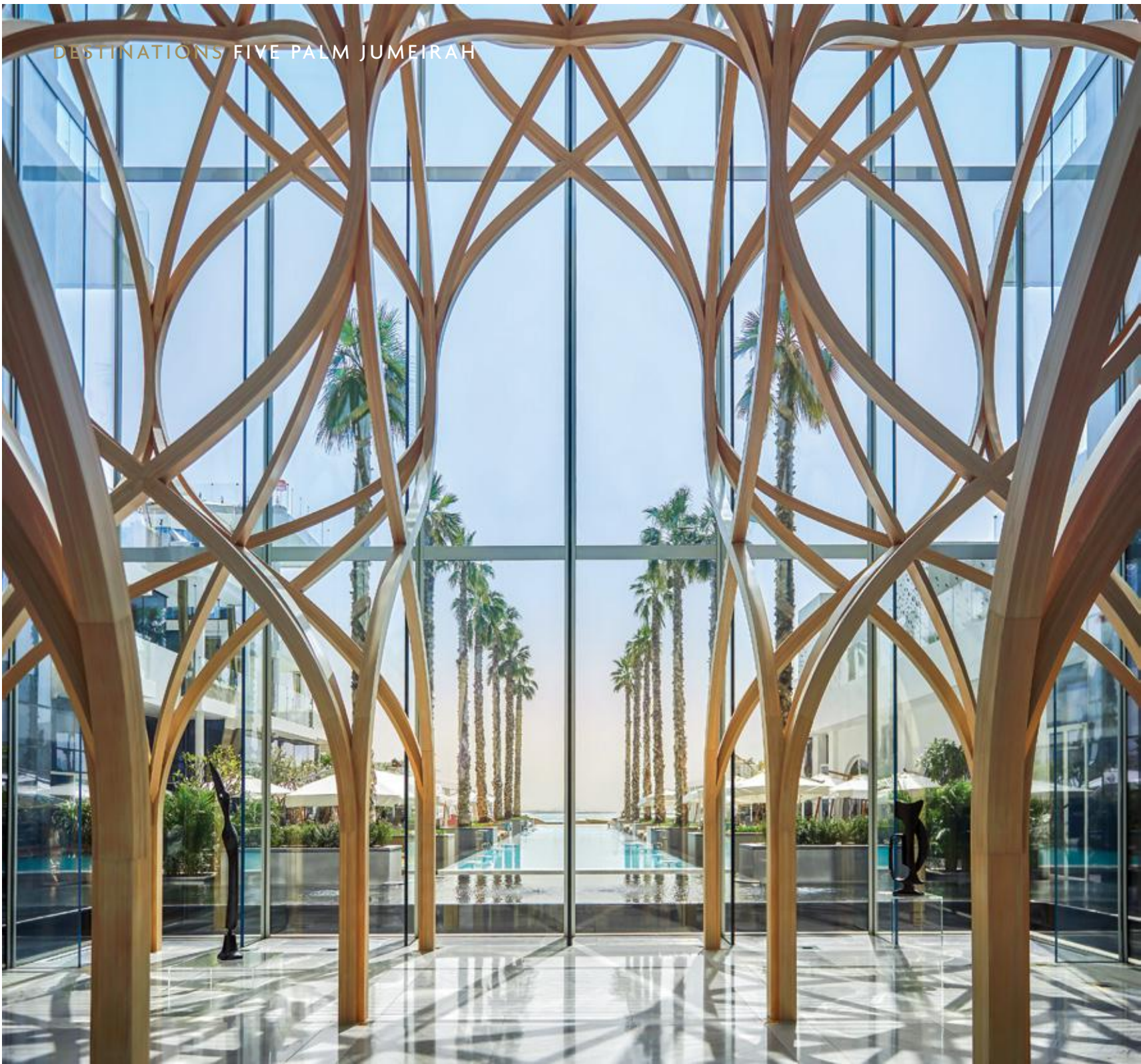
50 There are more than five reasons to stay at this Dubai hotel
60 Book the ticket and ride the wave in the Indian Ocean



G I V E M E F I V E

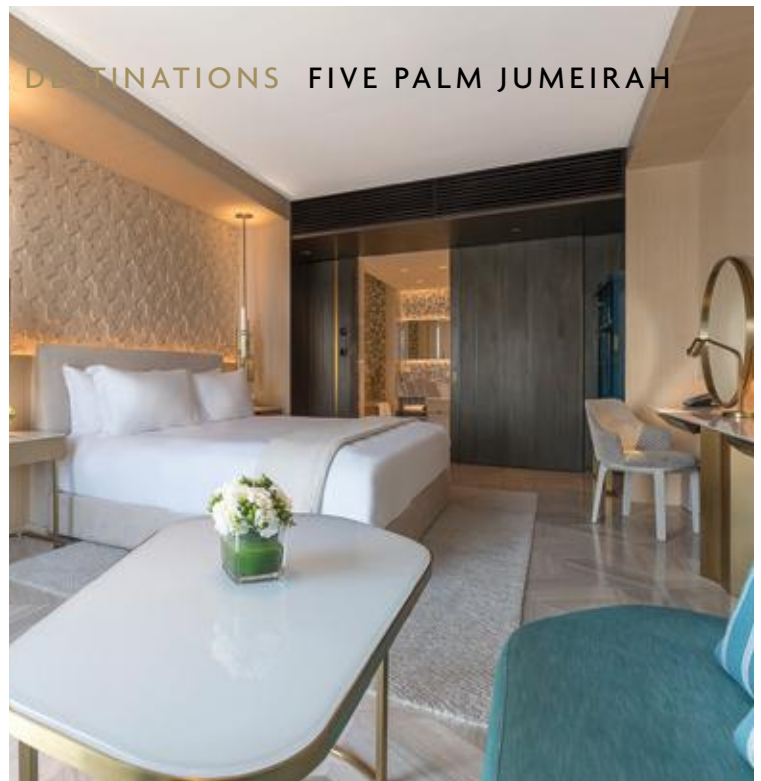
As FIVE Palm Jumeirah Dubai celebrates a year of luxurious hospitality this month, Steven Bond checks in for a weekend stay and discovers more bliss-inducing features than he can count on his own two palms





If we want to begin at the beginning – to borrow a phrase from Lewis Carroll – then we really have to begin at The Cube. The light-flooded entrance lobby at FIVE Palm Jumeirah is a celebration of space, which is a luxury that's hard to find on the crowded tree-shaped island, increasingly chocked with new developments and the associated traffic that comes with them. The glass case is void of complexities and other peripheral items (even seating), but is utterly dominated by a stunning floor-to-ceiling sculptural arrangement, with bending and twisting wooden strands planted in all four corners. I'm told the welcoming art piece is representative of DNA, but it seems to me as though I was journeying, like Alice, down the rabbit hole – and these were the roots from the more mundane reality I was leaving behind.

In this wonderland, there are plenty of enticing 'eat me' and 'drink me' opportunities along the way, but without the surreal and sinister components



DESTINATIONS FIVE PALM JUMEIRAH



“THE LIGHT-FLOODED ENTRANCE LOBBY AT FIVE PALM JUMEIRAH IS A CELEBRATION OF SPACE, WHICH IS A LUXURY THAT’S HARD TO FIND ON THE CROWDED ISLAND”

Opener: a view over the pool into the glass-cube lobby; the stylish reception area (left bottom); lofty views and the Luxe Sea View room (above); turned down and ready for rest in tasteful surrounds (below)

of Carroll’s fictional universe. The glass lobby channels guests either left or right, to each of the hotel’s wings, framed by the top-floor ballroom, conferencing areas and The Penthouse, one of the city’s premium chillout venues and party spots – not actually an accommodation option for the highest high-rollers, despite its name. Though, for the right price I’m sure anything is possible. Check-in would have been a brief encounter thanks to the large iPad and a beaming receptionist had it not been for the sheer popularity of the property. Running at 99.99% occupancy I arrived to a small queue of holidaymakers who alighted at the lobby a smidgen ahead of me.

Thanks to the efficiency of the Apple devices, it wasn’t long before I was in my 15th-floor Luxe Sea View room, an ample 48sqm pad that stretches all the way from the en-suite soaking tub (complete with mirrored ceiling, because why not?) to the cosy balcony suntrap. Nestled between the ‘standard’ Superior rooms and the hotel’s range of





ALL ON BOARD

Who says you can't mix five-star travel with adventure on the waves? With a swell of surfing opportunities in the Indian Ocean, why not tread the board at Anantara Peace Haven Tangalle Resort in Sri Lanka and Niyama Private Islands Maldives?





Above and right: just dive in at Niyama Private Islands; a bird's eye view of The Crescent



Above and far right: peace and exhilaration at Anantara Peace Haven Tangalle Resort



“IT TOOK A LONG TIME FOR SURF CULTURE TO TAKE HOLD ON THE CALIFORNIAN COAST, BUT THE PAST FEW DECADES HAVE SEEN IT SPREAD ACROSS THE GLOBE”



FROM TAHITI TO THE WORLD

Surfing waves was part of Polynesian culture centuries before it became a pro sport in the 1970s. British explorers observed the pastime off the shores of Tahiti, French Polynesia, in 1767, just a couple of years before members of James Cook’s HMS Endeavour made similar journal entries while exploring the same archipelago. Roughly a century later, Mark Twain recorded a more colourful account of what we must have been a peculiar sight at the time: “In one place we came upon a large company of naked natives, of both sexes and all ages, amusing themselves with the national pastime of surf-bathing.”

Modern-day enthusiasts typically wear more clothing, and the rest of the kit has also been innovated over the years. Swap out the improvised Tahitian planks for a 12-foot fiberglass foam board with one or more wooden strips or “stringers”, cover it in fiberglass cloth and coat it in a polyester resin and there you have a the standard, modern day board. The principle, however, has not changed: paddle out, catch a wave, pop up on your feet and enjoy the ride. It took a long time for surf culture to take hold on the Californian coast, but the past few decades have seen it spread across the globe, including the Indian Ocean where some spectacular breaks can be found.



I THINK WE'VE MET BEFORE?

Was it in New York, Paris or maybe Bangkok? We're always happy to see a familiar face.

After you've made yourself comfortable in one of our stylish rooms, head over to one of the bars, where you'll enjoy flawless service and chic surroundings. Discover your new favorite destination with Renaissance Downtown Hotel, Dubai.

For more information visit renaissancedowntowndubai.com
or email rendxb.sales@renhotels.com



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SPEND IT

UNIQUE EXPERIENCES AND SOPHISTICATED ESSENTIALS



89

SHE'S BACK

Really fast just got a bit faster – the new Bugatti Chiron Sport packs the power of 1,480 horses

- 70** Travel ideas to inspire your next adventure
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PRIVATE & PRESIDENTIAL

Ever since LUX* Resorts & Hotels launched their 'Reasons to Go' concept, we haven't stopped counting all the reasons for us to check-in to a Presidential Villa at South Ari Atoll in the Maldives. The far-flung hideaway has more recently launched the Lux* Paradise Package – a five-night stay in the aforementioned villa, with a remarkable array of perks, activities and experiences. You'd certainly hope your five-night stay would be extra special considering the US \$40,000 price tag. And the package certainly delivers, beginning with a private catamaran cruise: swim with dolphins, whale sharks, manta rays and sea turtles as you join the resort's resident marine biologist on the luxury vessel, with a captain and butler on hand to assist for all that you need. Other luxe experiences include the private in-villa chef dinner, sunset yoga, a sandbank picnic and another catamaran cruise – this time with a bevy of cocktails to sup as you watch the sun sink into the ocean.

PRICE: US \$40,000

AVAILABLE: Now

www.luxresorts.com

INDIAN OCEAN

ESCAPES

From Easter to International Women's Day, there's always something to celebrate in the Indian Ocean, but do we really need a reason to visit these tropical resorts?

Words: Steven Bond



FAMILY FUN AT VITTAPELLI

Who would have thought it – the Easter bunny has been hiding out in the Maldives. Families can go and meet the elusive rabbit this spring and receive chocolate eggs and other goodies at the Kuda Koli Kids Club, with a colourful tea party at the Samsara Boardwalk. The resort's exclusive Family Fun Offer includes a four-night stay in a Two Bedroom Beach Villa with Pool and access to a private beach or lagoon, daily buffet breakfasts, afternoon tea in the villa and evening meals at Samsara, Fenesse or MU Grill, a fruit basket on arrival and beach barbecue with the family. The resort also welcomes two special guests: artist Mueen Saheed from Sri Lanka will be at the resort March 20-25, adding a splash of colour with an exhibition of his paintings; and British chef Anthony Demetre will lead a week of cooking demonstrations, dinners and classes for an entire week, April 1-7.

PRICE: From US \$10,965

AVAILABLE: From now, with selected activities listed above

www.jumeirah.com



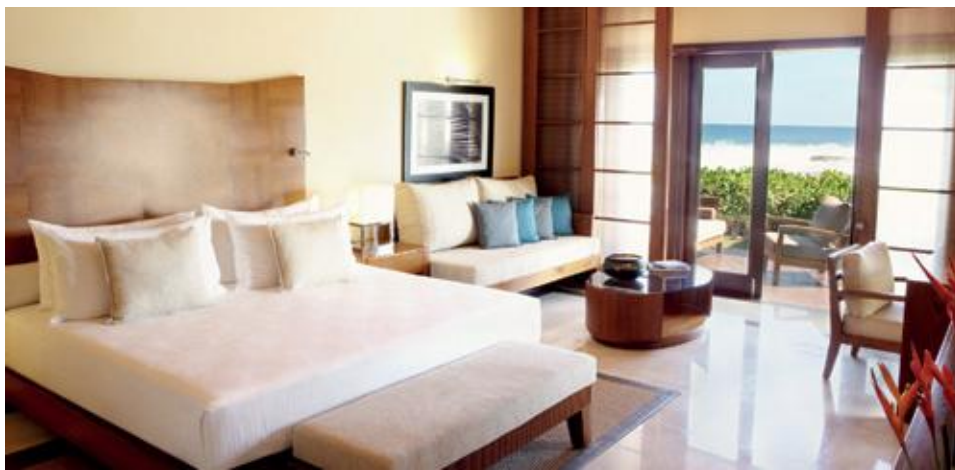
SIMPLY IRRESISTIBLE

Your next luxury island getaway just got a little harder to resist. For stays between April and September 30, guests can enjoy 40% savings on rates at Shanti Maurice Resort & Spa. The Shanti Irresistible Offer should be availed before September 15, and online bookings can potentially mean your stay is upgraded to the next suite or villa category, depending on availability. Guests can also claim 'Comfort Early Check-In', a free butler service for all villa bookings and sparkling wine and fruit platters in the room upon arrival.

PRICE: 40% discount – see website for details

AVAILABLE: Booking window ends September 15, 2018

www.shantimaurice.com



SHORT AND SWEET IN SRI LANKA

We can't all afford a whole fortnight away from our family and/or jobs, but sometimes a quick escape is all we need – and the Short Breaks Special at Anantara Peace Haven Tangalle Resort will afford us a serious discount. When you book a minimum two-night stay at the resort you'll receive a wealth of indulgent rewards, including an enticing breakfast buffet, 20% discount on a heavenly 90-minute oil massages and the finest of local and

international cuisine throughout your stay. Anantara's 'Short Breaks' stays are also eligible for complimentary room upgrades and a late check out until 4:00pm, when available.

PRICE: From US \$313 per night

AVAILABLE: Bookings can be made from March 1 to December 22, 2018

www.tangalle.anantara.com

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**JOURNEY TO WELLNESS
ON YAS ISLAND**

WHERE: YAS VICEROY ABU DHABI
AVAILABLE: NOW

It's estimated that a whopping 80% of New Year's resolutions have fallen by wayside by mid-February, which is why, Yas Viceroy Abu Dhabi has given guests an extra reason to be tenacious with their health goals. The hotel's new 'Journey to Wellness' package features a tailored personal training session, a pampering sports massage, nutritious meals and snacks and a range of dynamic fitness classes, combined with a luxury overnight stay, the immersive package has been created especially for so-called 'wellness warriors' looking for an Abu Dhabi staycation. The package starts from AED 1,400 per room per night and includes an overnight stay in Deluxe Room, in-room amenities, lunch at the Origins Salad Bar, a personal training session at the Marina View Gym and ESPA Sports Massage. Optional extras include cycling and/or running on the iconic Yas Marina Circuit, home of the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix, and a set menu dinner (available on Saturdays) at Angar, priced at AED 220 per head.
www.viceroyhotelsandresorts.com/en/abudhabi

Arabian Journeys

Shake off the winter blues: these Middle East staycation suggestions are guaranteed to put a spring in your step

**FAMILY STAYS
AT THE FAIRMONT**

WHERE: FAIRMONT DUBAI
AVAILABLE: THURSDAY
TO SATURDAY THROUGHOUT 2018

Who said that treasured family time has to be spent on a resort? With 394 guestrooms, suites, and penthouses, Fairmont Dubai provides a welcome retreat whether you're traveling for business, leisure or both. An array of 13 restaurants and nightlife venues await you from Noire, the Middle East's only dining in the dark concept; The Exchange Grill, an award-winning steakhouse; and Dokuz, an outdoor rooftop Turkish lounge. With the hotel's Family Breaks offer, you can enjoy room rates from AED 1500 with a 20% discount from the best available rate, a sumptuous breakfast buffet in the all-day dining restaurant Cascades, a 20% discount at The Spa and 20% off from food and beverage consumption – all when you book directly via the Fairmont Dubai website. Your next family staycation will offer you the perfect weekend getaway in the heart of the city and featuring opulent views overlooking Dubai skyline from its comfortable rooms.

www.fairmont.com/dubai



MARCH Essentials

Keep time in style, celebrate speed and send your little ones to a magical world at bedtime with an entralling item of furniture

Compiled by: Anna Zhukov



A TIMELY STATEMENT

Conceived at Château de Môtiers in the heart of Switzerland, this truly original and ultra-luxe masterpiece is born from old world elegance and cutting edge horology. The bespoke Édouard Bovet double-faced skeletonised flying Tourbillon with Hemispherical Earth Maps transforms the wristwatch to a table clock or pocket watch in seconds, a signature of Bovet's Amadeo case. The artisan masterpiece is dedicated to travel and engraved to represent a world map, which has been specially designed to take up the hemispherical surface with a delicately applied blue Super-LumiNova, allowing to read the dial in the dark.



Red Gold: \$362,000; White Gold: \$372,856; Platinum: \$396,295
www.bovet.com

SOLID SNAKES

Bulgari's iconic snake is back at it again, shedding its skin with incomparably flowing sensuality. The first twin-headed watch is the new interpretation of Bulgari Serpenti's incomparable power, a one-of-a-kind masterpiece embellished in white gold with diamonds and emeralds. POR.



The unique limited edition Bulgari Serpenti watch in Black Ceramic, Pink Gold and Diamonds on the bezel wraps around the wrist, showcasing the feminine driving force and reminding us of the history between woman and serpent: a story of destinies inextricably entwined.

PRICE: \$12,400
www.bulgari.com



ESSENCE OF SPEED

Born from a collaboration between McLaren and Lalique, the Essence of Speed collection celebrates the theme of excellence shared by the French glassmaker and the iconic auto firm. Symbols of speed, the collector's pieces will be released over a three-year period, starting with this stunning Sprinting Cheetah, limited to 375 pieces – the same number as the limited edition P1 supercar. The satin-finished crystal cat is also immortalised in a spectacular larger 20-piece edition, created using the lost-wax technique to commemorate the 20 Formula One World Championships that McLaren has won so far.

375-piece Lighted Base edition: H 190mm; \$2,363
 20-piece Lost Wax edition: H 487 mm; \$60,300
www.lalique.com



HEAD IN THE CLOUDS

Make bedtime exciting and ignite imagination with the Sky B Plane from Circu. The aviation-inspired bed is based on the Leadbottom, a beloved character from the Disney movie "Planes" – an iconic biplane used in the golden era of aviation. The 2.85 metre-wide body is entirely made of fibreglass with glossy varnish applied and chrome plated finishes in the engine and wheels. The plane has several storage compartments and the top wing can be used as a bookshelf, while the decorative suitcases include secret storage compartments and allow an easy access to the bed, which is 2.8 metres long and 1.7 metres in height.

PRICE: \$26,316
www.circu.net



WALKING WITH ELEPHANTS

This unique vibrant elephant necklace exemplifies focused power and strength, born from another exciting collaboration this season. Bulgari and Emilio Pucci's Fall Winter 2018-2019 Ready-to-Wear collection is a tribute to the very idea of Italian glamour and its American connection. For this joint showcase Pucci blends alluring and sporty fashion as favoured by Marilyn Monroe, whilst Bulgari draws inspiration from the '70s with its bold and exuberant High Jewellery and Heritage Collections. POR.

www.emiliopucci.com
www.bulgari.com

THE TAMING OF THE BULL

The rutting alpha bull of the Lamborghini herd visits our garage this month – and Kris Karacinski tries to tame the Aventador S

PHOTOGRAPHY: Eliot Sleep



Sail away

HEESEN // VANTOM

A different kind of white Van is making waves – Heesen has announced the delivery of the sixth yacht in its coveted 50-metre series. Designed by Frank Laupman of Omega Architects, VanTom was handed over on Valentine’s Day after an intense series of sea trials. The Heesen 5000 Aluminium class is proving to be a revolutionary offering – the semi-custom platform concept enables clients to have a yacht they can transform to their specific requirements, reducing costly rounds of changes and lowering construction times.

“During sea trials, the yacht handled extremely well and gave a very smooth ride, even whilst proceeding at a speed of over 20 knots with a sea running,” said David Burge, the vessel’s captain, ahead of VanTom’s maiden voyage to the Med. The tri-decked superyacht offers accommodation for up to 12 guests in six suites and is also capable of carrying up to nine crewmembers. The vessel formally known as Project Alba has interiors designed by Francesco Paszkowski.

Length: 49.8 metres

Beam: 9 metres

Interior volume: 499 GT

Top speed: 23 knots

Range: 3,100 nautical miles



ON THE WATER THIS MONTH

DUBAI BOAT SHOW

Feb 27 – March 3
Dubai Canal, Jumeirah, UAE
www.boatshowdubai.com

LORO PIANA CARIBBEAN REGATTA & RENDEZVOUS

March 8 – 11
Yacht Club Costa Smeralda, Italy
www.yccs.it

MOSCOW BOAT SHOW

March 7 – 11
Crocus Expo, Russia
www.mosboatshow.ru

PALM BEACH INTERNATIONAL BOAT SHOW

March 22 – 25
West Palm Beach, Florida
www.pbboatshow.com



Length: 84 metres
Width: 19 metres
Weight: 3,000 tonnes
Capacity: 22 guests & 30 crew
Cruising speed: 84 kN
Range: 5,000 nautical miles



ECHO YACHTS // WHITE RABBIT GOLF

This isn't simply the largest ever superyacht project undertaken in Australia, it's one of the largest aluminium trimarans ever conceived. Styled externally and internally by the award-winning Sorgiovanni Designs, Echo Yachts' upcoming 84-metre goliath has been much delayed but is currently under construction at the firm's Henderson facility and is due to be launched before the end of the year.

The yacht's tri-hull configuration allows for a 20-metre beam, and will accommodate an expansive deck for socializing al fresco, as well as palatial interior spaces. Key features include a luxurious four-stop guest elevator by Lift Emotion, but the greatest accessory comes in the form of the support vessel – the whopping 51-metre twin-hulled shadow boat.

Named 'Charley', the support yacht has already been delivered and features a bounty of options for entertaining guests to and from the mothership, namely the sheltered observation deck, an informal eight-seater dining area and a lounge complete with all the latest tech and an on-board piano.



ST REGIS
DUBAI

Custom Designed Suite

Discover the refined serenity of the Bentley Suite. Inspired by bespoke craftsmanship of the flagship Bentley Mulsanne, its leather finishes, colors and wood veneers pairs the glamor of its prestigious namesake with the elegance of the St. Regis brand. Harmonizing the interiors of the one-bedroom suite is the signature butler service, making it the perfect setting for a magical stay.

The St. Regis Dubai

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