

DESTINATIONS OF THE WORLD

# news

Essential travel intelligence

December 2019



WINTER  
WANDERLUST  
Festive adventures from  
Lapland to London

THE NIGHT'S  
WATCH  
10 BEAUTIFUL TIMEPIECES  
FOR NEW YEAR'S EVE

CHEF'S TABLE  
GIORGIO LOCATELLI,  
HEINZ BECK & GREG MALOUF

HEIGHT OF  
**STYLE**

W ABU DHABI - YAS ISLAND: THE CAPITAL'S COOLEST NEW HOTEL

EXCLUSIVE TIMEPIECES

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**W ABU DHABI – YAS ISLAND PRESENTS**

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IT UP**

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**W**  
ABU DHABI  
YAS ISLAND



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**THE RITZ-CARLTON**

ABU DHABI, GRAND CANAL

Advanced reservations are required.



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# TIMELESS MUSICAL MOMENTS IN VIENNA

THERE ARE SOME EXPERIENCES that money can't buy. But having a bespoke orchestral piece written for you and recorded by members of the Vienna Philharmonic orchestra is not one of them. All it takes is a quiet word in the ear of the concierge team at Hotel Imperial Vienna and this once-in-a-lifetime experience is yours for EUR 25,000 (\$27,575). The musical arrangement, created following a consultation with the composer, can be tailored to reflect the character and tastes of one individual, a couple, or the entire family, making it a unique keepsake that will immortalise a special trip to Vienna. In addition to the composition, guests will enjoy two nights in the hotel's Elizabeth or Imperial Suite including champagne breakfast for two, as well as limousine airport transfers, the services of the hotel's Imperial Butler and a gala dinner at Restaurant OPUS.

[www.imperialvienna.com](http://www.imperialvienna.com)

And it's not the only one-of-a-kind musical experience available in the Austrian capital this winter season: the Vienna Philharmonic's New Year's Concert is one of the most important events

on the city's musical calendar, and tickets are a hot commodity. To guarantee yours, book in for four nights at the opulent Palais Coburg Residence and receive a pair of top-tier tickets for the concert in the Golden Hall of the Musikverein, complete with return limousine transfers and a bouquet of additional perks.

The EUR 15,895 (\$17,530) package also includes champagne and gourmet treats on arrival and a table for two at the two Michelin-starred Silvio Nickol restaurant for the Grand Gala Dinner on New Year's Eve, where you'll be treated to a nine-course dinner complete with wine pairings from the hotel's 60,000 bottle collection. After the fireworks at midnight, you'll join the Palais Coburg New Year's Eve Party, where members of the Vienna State Opera will perform a special arrangement and a DJ will see the night through to the early hours. Make sure you're up in time for New Year's Brunch the next day, or just enjoy your luxurious suite before a private limousine takes you to their airport. [www.palais-coburg.com](http://www.palais-coburg.com)

The exclusive packages are part of the

preparations for Vienna 2020: Capital of Music; a whole year dedicated to celebrating the city's vast musical heritage, during which Vienna's legendary musical institutions will open their doors to exclusive behind-the-scenes access. The Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra is inviting guests to take a guided tour of its archives and view compositions and photographs not usually accessible to the public; the Vienna State Opera is offering visitors the chance to meet with world famous opera singers, ballet dancers and conductors; and the Kunsthistorisches Museum is welcoming musical aficionados to visit its collection of historic musical instruments and enjoy a private concert.

If that's not enough to capture your imagination, there are 450 balls scheduled to take place across the city throughout the year, and Vienna's hotels offer plenty of opportunities to prepare. Nimble-footed visitors can practice their moves during private waltz lessons, arrange a private fitting for the perfect ball gown, or plan a fairy-tale arrival in a horse-drawn carriage.

[www.musik2020.wien.info](http://www.musik2020.wien.info)

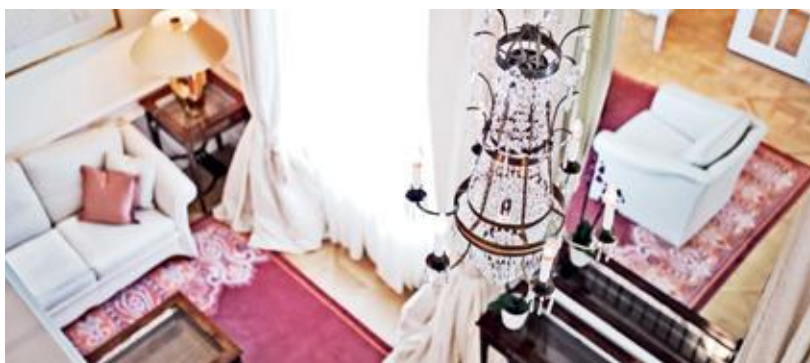






PHOTO: Anthony Parkinson/Eric Venanzobres



## DIRECT YOUR OWN PARISIAN ROMANCE AT THIS HOLLYWOOD-THEMED SUITE

FILM BUFFS AND FRANCOPHILES WILL BE QUEUING UP to check into The St. Germain Penthouse by Coppola, the new signature suite created in honour of the legendary director Francis Ford Coppola at Lutetia hotel in Paris. The suite was created by Parisian architect and designer Jean-Michel Wilmotte with the assistance of Coppola himself, who donated items from his personal archive to bring the magic of Hollywood to life in this one-of-a-kind abode.

Packed with movie memorabilia and Hollywood paraphernalia, including an annotated copy of Mario Puzo's *The Godfather*, a signed Cannes Film Festival poster and an original Éclair Cameflex camera, the suite celebrates

Coppola's life and the world of cinematic art, while offering a taste of first-class Left Bank lifestyle.

Situated at the top of the hotel, which originally opened in 1910, the loft-style suite features an open-plan living room and dining area with bookshelves stacked with cinematic tomes, and walls lined with movie illustrations and stills. The master bedroom features personal photos from the director's archive and leads to a bathroom clad in Carrara marble. But the climactic scene in this award-winning picture is the spacious rooftop terrace, where a lounge area and outdoor dining table afford guests privileged views across the rooftops of the stunning city of St. Germain. [www.thesethotels.com](http://www.thesethotels.com)

## PLANTING AN OASIS IN THE HEART OF OXFORD STREET

AMBITIOUS PLANS TO REDEVELOP LONDON'S CAVENDISH SQUARE into a four-storey subterranean medical, wellness and retail destination have been submitted to Westminster City Council, with a view to turning the Georgian square into the UK capital's hottest lifestyle hub. Accessed via a glass-roofed tunnel that will allow natural light to flood into the underground levels, the development will have a strong medical and wellness focus, extending the reach of the nearby Harley Street Medical Area to provide space for new wellbeing-focused businesses, in light of the growing demand for health and wellbeing services in the city.

The £100 million (\$128 million) project envisaged by the UK's Reef Group will link Harley Street to the flagship retail stores and luxury boutiques of Oxford Street thanks to the redevelopment of 280,000 sq ft of underground space (currently occupied by a car park) and the sensitive restoration of Cavendish Square itself. When complete, the square will be home to three new entrances facing Oxford Street, Regent Street and Harley Street, newly landscaped gardens and an outdoor event space.

If plans are approved, work will begin next year in the hope that the first businesses can move in by 2022, creating a new oasis in the heart of busy Oxford Street.

[www.cavendishsquarelondon.co.uk](http://www.cavendishsquarelondon.co.uk)



**MANDARIN ORIENTAL**  
**DID YOU HEAR?** WILL RAISE ITS FLAG ON THE SHORES OF LAKE LUCERNE IN SWITZERLAND NEXT YEAR AFTER A MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR RENOVATION OF A LAKESIDE PALACE. MANDARIN ORIENTAL PALACE, LUZERN WILL OFFER MOUNTAIN AND LAKE VIEWS FROM ITS 146 ROOMS AND SUITES WHEN IT REOPENS TOWARDS THE END OF 2020.



# Debut | December

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



## ANDAZ DUBAI THE PALM Dubai, UAE

Every now and again a new hotel comes along that breaks the mould and puts its own unique stamp on a destination. That's certainly the case with Andaz Dubai The Palm, the first outpost of Hyatt's funky lifestyle brand to open its doors in the Emirate. Situated on the trunk of Palm Jumeirah on a 300-metre stretch of beach, the hotel feels contemporary and fresh, but there's a distinct sense of Emirati culture running through too. The 217 guestrooms and 116 residences feature unique local design elements, such as textiles inspired by traditional Bedouin 'Al Sadu' embroidery and curving dark wood ceilings above the beds that create the impression of a modern Bedouin tent. Guestrooms pop in bright bursts of colour that reflect the hues of the Arabian Gulf beyond the windows, and the use of tan and beige leather in the suites' seating areas provide a rustic contrast to the vibrant contemporary art produced by local Emirati artists, which adorns the walls throughout this refreshing new resort.

[www.hyatt.com](http://www.hyatt.com)

## AMAN KYOTO Kyoto, Japan

Aman's quest for otherworldly locations has led it to Kyoto for its newest retreat, nestled among 32 hectares of peaceful forest. Set in a valley blanketed in trees whose leaves change colour with the season, Aman Kyoto is a destination in its own right, just a 20 minutes scenic walk from the UNESCO World Heritage Kinkaku-ji Temple. Moss-covered pathways wind through sculpted gardens and the hotel's six guest pavilions, where 26 guestrooms, designed by Kerry Hill, take Aman's signature minimalist style to a whole new level. Walking through the forest to the Aman Spa is the first step on a journey to inner wellbeing, which is completed with a dip in spring-fed onsen baths, and healing treatments infused with local ingredients. Those in pursuit of inner harmony can practise Zen meditation with a local monk, learn the traditional Japanese art of *ikebana* (flower arranging) or visit a traditional *ochaya* (teahouse) to spend time with a *geiko* (the local term for geisha) in Kamishichiken. [www.aman.com](http://www.aman.com)



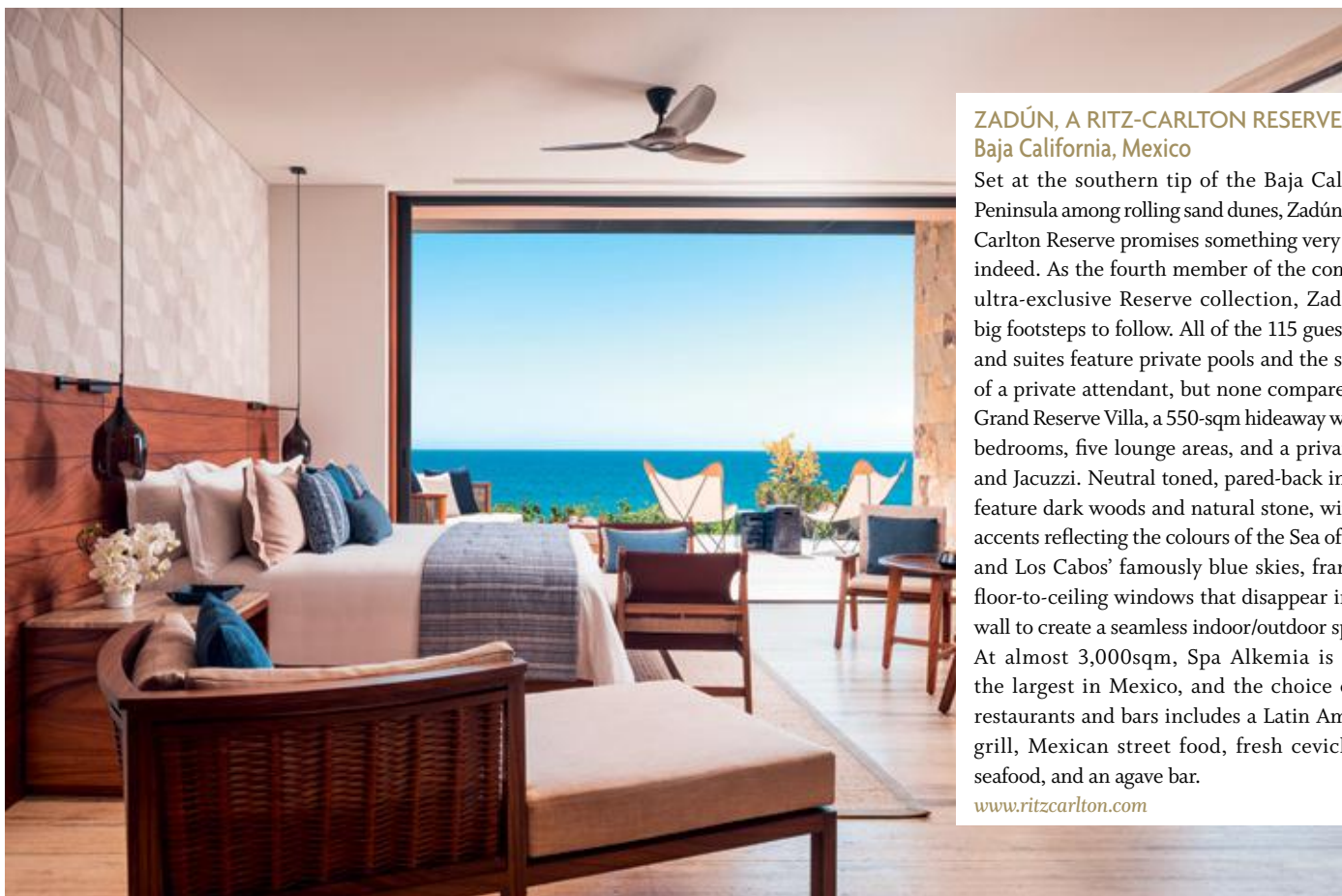
## ROCCO FORTE HOUSE Rome, Italy

The indefatigable Sir Rocco Forte has unveiled his most exclusive project yet with the opening of Rocco Forte House in Rome. Styled as a collection of five sumptuous private apartments set within an 18th-century palazzo, it offers guests the generous space and elegant setting of a private home, combined with the services of a five-star palace hotel. Ranging from a two-bedroom 126-sqm apartment to the 291-sqm Borghese Private Suite, each look out over Piazza di Spagna, and are stylishly appointed by Rome-based designer Tommaso Ziffer. A house manager can arrange for a private chef, sommelier or waiter to attend guests in their suite, or perhaps arrange a table at one of the two other Rocco Forte hotels in Rome: the neighbouring Hotel de Russie and the recently opened Hotel de la Ville. [www.roccofortehotels.com](http://www.roccofortehotels.com)



#### FOUR SEASONS RESORT LOS CABOS AT COSTA PALMAS Baja California, Mexico

The eastern coast of Baja California stretches more than 1,200 kilometres along the Sea of Cortez, the warm gulf separating the peninsula from the mainland that's home to whale sharks and abundant marine life. Nestled along its own 3.2 kilometre stretch of beach, Four Seasons Resort Los Cabos at Costa Palmas is the latest addition to this gleaming coastline, with 141 guestrooms and suites bearing traditional Mexican motifs incorporated into gorgeous contemporary interiors. Junior jetsetters will be well looked after thanks to the Kids for All Seasons programme, while parents sneak off to the Oasis Spa and Wellness Centre or one of five dining options, including an outpost of acclaimed Greek seafood restaurant Estiatorio Milos. The resort is the first phase of the Costa Palmas residential and luxury lifestyle community, which will eventually be home to a 250-berth marina and yacht club, an 18-hole Robert Trent Jones II golf course, and 18 acres of organic farm and orchards on Baja's East Cape. For those who can't bear to leave, a collection of private villas and residences are available for ownership, inviting global citizens to purchase their very own slice of paradise. [www.fourseasons.com](http://www.fourseasons.com)



#### ZADÚN, A RITZ-CARLTON RESERVE Baja California, Mexico

Set at the southern tip of the Baja California Peninsula among rolling sand dunes, Zadún, a Ritz-Carlton Reserve promises something very special indeed. As the fourth member of the company's ultra-exclusive Reserve collection, Zadún has big footsteps to follow. All of the 115 guestrooms and suites feature private pools and the services of a private attendant, but none compare to the Grand Reserve Villa, a 550-sqm hideaway with two bedrooms, five lounge areas, and a private pool and Jacuzzi. Neutral toned, pared-back interiors feature dark woods and natural stone, with blue accents reflecting the colours of the Sea of Cortez and Los Cabos' famously blue skies, framed by floor-to-ceiling windows that disappear into the wall to create a seamless indoor/outdoor space. At almost 3,000sqm, Spa Alkemia is one of the largest in Mexico, and the choice of four restaurants and bars includes a Latin American grill, Mexican street food, fresh ceviche and seafood, and an agave bar.

[www.ritzcarlton.com](http://www.ritzcarlton.com)



DECEMBER  
1-31

**FLOWERS BY NAKED EXHIBITION**

**Kyoto, Japan**

It's your last chance to see the stunning *Flowers by Naked* exhibition that has taken Japan by storm. Now in its second year, the immersive outdoor artwork exhibition, showcases at Kyoto's Nijo-Jo Castle, in commemoration of the castle's 25th anniversary as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. With the theme of 'Chinese Phoenix' to symbolise eternal prosperity, the exhibition features 3D artworks, as well as digital art and *ikebana* – the Japanese art of flower arranging. [www.flowers.naked.works](http://www.flowers.naked.works)

DECEMBER  
**Diary**

Festivities come to the fore this month, with a beautiful evening of carols at Dubai Opera. Elsewhere, we celebrate craftsmanship in art, jewellery, fashion and photography with exhibitions from the UAE to Asia

DECEMBER  
5-8

**ART MIAMI**

**Miami Beach, USA**

In the American show of the world-leading Art Basel, galleries from North America, Latin America, Europe and Asia show significant work from the masters of Modern and contemporary art, as well as the new generation of emerging stars. On show you'll find paintings, sculptures, installations, photographs, films and editioned works, as well as hosted conversations on topics surrounding the global contemporary art scene. [www.artbasel.com/miami-beach](http://www.artbasel.com/miami-beach)

DEC  
1-14

**FLÂNERIE COLBERT EXHIBITION**

**Abu Dhabi, UAE**

*Flânerie Colbert Abu Dhabi: French Luxury in the 21st Century* is an exhibition from in which French luxury showcases its creativity and artisan crafts, from Hermès to Chanel to Dior. The event takes place in three different locations: The Galleria Al Maryah Island, for window displays and in-store events; House of Artisans in Qasr Al Hosn, for engaging conversations; and Saadiyat Island for industry talks from Comité Colbert. [www.flaneriecolbert.ae](http://www.flaneriecolbert.ae)



DECEMBER  
12-14

**JINGLE BELL FAVOURITES**

Dubai, UAE

If there was ever a way of putting a little swing in your festive spirit, a night of festive cheer at Dubai Opera is it. The three-night *Jingle Bell Favourites* extravaganza is a family concert of carols and much-loved Christmas classics performed by London Concert Orchestra Show Band, Capital Voices and West End soloists. [www.dubaiopera.com](http://www.dubaiopera.com)



DEC 1 -  
JAN 15

**TREASURES & LEGENDS EXHIBITION**

Dubai, UAE

Following the success of its launch in November, Van Cleef & Arpels' *Treasures & Legends* exhibition is set to continue its showcase of pieces in the Patrimony Room of Les Salons Van Cleef & Arpels Dubai Opera until January 15, 2020. The exclusive pieces which span more than a century of creations by the Maison narrate stories of royalty and give guests a glimpse into the history of one of the most prestigious jewellery dynasties in the world. Featuring pieces that once belonged to Queen Nazli of Egypt, the Duchess of Windsor and Princess Grace of Monaco (including this 1930s Flower Brooch), each piece is accompanied by captivating, historical and mysterious stories. [www.vancleefarpels.com](http://www.vancleefarpels.com)

DEC 1 -  
MAY 31

**WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR**

London, UK

Always one of our annual highlights, the *Wildlife Photographer of the Year* exhibition at London's Natural History Museum, is an eye-opening immersion into the breathtaking diversity of the natural world. Get up close and personal with some truly remarkable imagery that highlights the beauty and fragility of wildlife. During this time of environmental crisis, these images are even more important and impactful than ever. [www.nhm.ac.uk](http://www.nhm.ac.uk)



PHOTO: © Audun Rikardsen - Wildlife Photographer of the Year © Art Miami



A vertical photograph of a winter landscape. The scene is dominated by snow-covered evergreen trees, likely spruce or fir, which are heavily laden with snow. The ground is a smooth, undisturbed expanse of white snow. In the background, a bright sunburst effect breaks through the sky, creating a warm, golden glow that illuminates the scene. The sky is a clear, pale blue. The overall atmosphere is serene and festive. The text 'WINTER WANDERLUST' is overlaid in the lower-middle section of the image.

# WINTER WANDERLUST

From heli-skiing down snow-clad mountains and ice-diving off a mega-yacht to crossing into the Arctic Circle on an epic train journey and luxury shopping at the world's leading Christmas markets, these are the festive experiences that will stay with you forever...

**WORDS:** Devinder Bains





1. ARCTIC EXPLORING



2. WINTER WATERWORLD



3. THE LAND OF ICE AND FIRE

## SNOW IT ALL

### 1. ARCTIC EXPLORING

Enjoy decadent living with a champagne and caviar fuelled New Year's Eve celebration on board the Golden Eagle train as it departs from a festive St. Petersburg, then journey across to the Norwegian Arctic Circle in search of the Aurora Borealis before returning to Moscow for a Russian Christmas in early January. The 12-day Arctic Explorer trip mixes onboard stays in grand suites with gourmet meals and drinks included, with stopovers at luxury hotels in both Russian cities and en route. Activities include stop-offs at the Snowhotel Kirkenes (the first hotel completely made of snow and ice) on the border of Norway, fishing for king crabs through ice holes before relaxing by a cosy log fire to wait for your king crab meal, and, of course a trip to search for the Northern Lights. Onboard entertainment includes Russian language lessons, talks on the Northern Lights by the accompanying astronomer, elegant afternoon teas, vodka tasting sessions and spare hours to idly enjoy the epic passing landscape. For an additional cost there's the opportunity to book snowmobile tours and husky-sledging too during stop offs.

To book: [www.goldeneagleluxurytrains.com](http://www.goldeneagleluxurytrains.com)

### 2. WINTER WATERWORLD

Take wonder to a new stratosphere with an Arctic journey that will have you heli-skiing, whale watching, snowmobiling, ice hiking and husky-sledging by day and sleeping on a super-yacht by night. This adventure cruise in Greenland is as lavish as a winter break could be, with options to book a suite aboard the Legend or charter the whole mega-yacht with 13 cabins for family and friends. Enjoy the onboard piano and whisky bar, the 14-seater cinema, an epic BBQ area with outdoor heating and a state-of-the-art gym and Balinese spa featuring a Jacuzzi, sauna and treatment room, as well as 16-person main deck Jacuzzi with

a waterfall feature. But the fun really starts when you step inside the Legend helicopter and head for the snowy peaks for some world-class skiing. Descend steep, virgin slopes while taking in views of the sea and brilliant blue fjords. Take to the piste every day or swap in some time for hiking or jump aboard one of two Legend snowmobiles to explore the Arctic landscape. If icebergs and freezing waters beckon then the ice diving option is a must.

To book: [www.y.co](http://www.y.co)

### 3. THE LAND OF ICE AND FIRE

Iceland is a geographical marvel, a land of stunning spectacles that will take your breath away. Get ready to experience a volcanic landscape that boasts glaciers, geysers, waterfalls and natural hot lagoons, all below a starry sky that is one of the best places in the world to see the Northern Lights. Start your trip in the achingly cool capital of Reykjavík, famous for being edgy and luxe in equal measure. With well-established design, fashion, music and culinary scenes (be sure to enjoy some Nordic fine dining at the Michelin-starred Dill whilst there) it's easy to use the capital as a base to see the rest of the country. Stay at one of the stylish suites at the Ion City Hotel and book your excursions from there, or head out and stay at the Ion Adventure Hotel in Nesjavellir to be amongst the wilderness for trekking, fly fishing and dark-enough skies to see the Aurora Borealis. Or, splash out on one of the suites at The Retreat Hotel at The Blue Lagoon and have easy access to the geothermal waters of the lagoon. Wherever you decide to stay, essential activities not to miss include the Golden Circle tour to take in the country's most dramatic scenery, including Thingvellir National Park, Gullfoss Waterfall, and the Geysir Geothermal area. For additional adventure, add a hike on the ice-covered Sólheimajökull Glacier and book a late-night Northern Lights trip.

More info: [www.visitreykjavik.is](http://www.visitreykjavik.is) / [www.iceland.is](http://www.iceland.is) / [www.ionice.land.is](http://www.ionice.land.is) / [www.dillrestaurant.is](http://www.dillrestaurant.is)



# THE NEW GUARD

W Abu Dhabi – Yas Island takes pole position as the capital’s leading design hotel. A dynamic property built around Arabian tradition, from pearl diving and architecture to kufic calligraphy and a desert in full bloom. This 499-room hotel is high on visual impact – a destination for those who dream big and live loud

**PHOTOGRAPHY:** Greg Adamski

**STYLING:** Gemma Deeks





Kristina Fidelskaya shirt  
and trousers. Jimmy Choo  
shoes. By Far bag, Roberi  
& Fraud sunglasses.  
Aurate earrings





### MAKING LIFE MEMORABLE

*Como Maalifushi, Maldives*

If, like many, you prefer to spend the holidays at home, then book in early at Como Maalifushi for the perfect pre-Christmas retreat. Como Maalifushi Adventure runs until December 19, allowing you to book five nights at this glorious Maldivian property and enjoy the following: daily breakfast, lunch or dinner at Madi seafood restaurant, two activities per guest, ranging from sunset bottom fishing, turtle expedition snorkelling and dolphin cruise, yoga class, and a host of non-motorised water sports. For something that little bit special, why not book in for an unique private dining experience too, from a champagne breakfast to castaway picnic or an island BBQ under the stars.

[www.comohotels.com](http://www.comohotels.com)

### DECEMBER

# ESCAPES

Whether you're dreaming of celebrating the festive season somewhere exotic or want to get away from it all and power down, from Kenya to Miami to the Maldives, indulge and enjoy.



### AN AFRICAN ADVENTURE

*Mount Kenya Safari Club, Kenya*

This Christmas, why not holiday at the foothills of Mount Kenya and immerse yourself in a truly African experience this festive season? If you're looking for something special then Fairmont's Mount Kenya Safari Club has an unforgettable offer, including a two-nights' stay, full-board and a sparkling Christmas dinner, featuring a live band, a capella singers, DJ, saxophonist, fully-kitted out kids programme, a fireworks display and Christmas Mass. Or, stay for New Year's Eve and enjoy a special celebratory dinner with all the above trappings. Whilst here, take advantage of your locale, with horse rides, mountain climbing, nature walks and a visit to an animal orphanage. [www.fairmont.com](http://www.fairmont.com)





### POWERING DOWN

#### *Mandarin Oriental Miami, US*

With the start of a new year usually comes a promise to give more time, love and care to yourself. Mandarin Oriental is championing the cause with its Power Off In Paradise offer, running throughout 2020, which offers guests a minimum of two nights' stay in a Skyline Suite (or above), a 120-minute Digital Wellness Escape at the five-star spa, a private family yoga and singing bowl session, in-room wellness basket filled with non-digital mindful activities, a healthy Bento Box lunch, and cell-phone sleeping bags, so you can tuck them in but out of reach. With the hotel helping you to put down your devices, you can reconnect with yourself and loved ones in one of the coolest locations in the world. [www.mandarinoriental.com](http://www.mandarinoriental.com)



### PRIVATE ISLAND DREAMING

#### *Anantara Bazaruto Island Resort, Mozambique*

Escape to an island paradise this month to discover untouched shores and enjoy a holiday where adventure is balanced with wellbeing. Stay for two nights and begin your trip with an exhilarating helicopter ride to Anantara Bazaruto Island Resort, for the ultimate in adrenalin-fuelled arrivals. Then rebalance your mind, body and soul

with a 60-minute Anantara Signature Massage, a horse-ride along the beach, or set sail for the horizon with a stunning Dhow sunset cruise. With daily breakfast, lunch and dinner catered for too, serving the freshest Mozambican cuisine, you can relax amid the rolling sand dunes or swim and snorkel with visiting dolphins in the clear azure waters, while losing yourself to nature's beauty in one of the last untouched paradises.

[www.anantara.com](http://www.anantara.com)





**SIGHT-SEEING ESCAPE**

**WHERE:** SALALAH ROTANA, OMAN  
**WHAT:** CULTURAL ESCAPE

Offering the perfect 'get away from it all' staycation, Salalah Rotana's Cultural Escape combines history, heritage and relaxation. Known for its beautiful climate, nature and warm Omani hospitality, it allows you to embrace all this and more, whilst whisking you away on a half-day tour to soak up various sites, including Sultan Qaboos Mosque, Haffah Souk, the Museum of the Land of Frankincense, and Salalah Gardens Mall. A true insight into the wonderful culture of Oman, you can return to Rotana Salalah for a two-night stay of pure, unadulterated rest and relaxation.

[www.rotana.com](http://www.rotana.com)

# Arabian Journeys

Explore private islands in Abu Dhabi, experience a safari in Saudi, or fly with falcons over Dubai... Whatever your whim this month, may your travels be rich



**AND ALL SAY SPA-AHHH**

**WHERE:** ONE&ONLY ROYAL MIRAGE, DUBAI  
**WHAT:** RESIDENCE SUITE & SPA EXPERIENCE

Treat your body pre- or post-holiday excess with a stay at One&Only Royal Mirage with its Residence Suite & Spa Experience, that invites guests to stay in an elegant suite at the coveted Residence & Spa for a minimum of three nights, an indulgent breakfast and afternoon tea, a daily health and beauty treatment, including a one-hour massage or Oriental Hammam, a Mani:Pedi Cure by Bastien Gonzalez, and a shampoo, colour root or hairstyling session by Alexandre Zouari. All this in the bucolic surrounds of the hotel's beautiful beachside resort, where you can enjoy the calm before or after the festive storm.

[www.oneandonlyresorts.com](http://www.oneandonlyresorts.com)



### WITH VIEWS TO DIE FOR

**WHERE:** ANANTARA AL YAMM VILLA, SIR BANI YAS ISLAND, ABU DHABI  
**WHAT:** MID-WEEK DISCOVERY

If you've got time off during the holidays, but are wondering how to spend it, stay at Anantara Al Yamm Villas on Sir Bani Island with its mid-week offer, and enjoy breakfast, plus a daily activity for two, where you can hone your skills in archery, enjoy a wildlife drive to spot the island's resident giraffes or take a tour around Sir Bani Yas via mountain bike. At the end of your adventure-filled day, you can slink away to the spa, to indulge in a complimentary 60-minute treatment, too.

[www.anantara.com](http://www.anantara.com)



### NATURAL WORLD

**WHERE:** NOFA RESORT RIYADH, SAUDI  
**WHAT:** A SAFARI EXPERIENCE

Nofa Resort Riyadh is one of Radisson Hotel Group's most unique properties, an African-style resort with 57 luxurious bungalows and villas overlooking Nofa Wildlife Park. It also features an equestrian estate, and a world-class golf course surrounded by dunes and mountains. Home to over 700 animals, including zebras, giraffe and cheetahs, Nofa Safari Park is a special way to explore Africa in the heart of the Middle East, and the hotel's secluded luxury villas, complete with private gardens and swimming pools, ensure you really have a once-in-a-lifetime experience from the moment you arrive.

[www.radissonhotels.com](http://www.radissonhotels.com)







# NO ADULTS ALLOWED

Our pick of the best child-friendly things to do, try and buy this month, with an edit of festive fashion, the best ways to entertain kids over Christmas and edu-tainment dinosaur sleepovers in a museum



## AFTER-DARK DINO ADVENTURES

What could be better than packing your kids up and sending them for an overnight stay in The Natural History Museum in London? Dino Snores' Christmas Special is a night at the museum event for children aged 7-11 years, in which they get to explore the Museum after dark, taking part in fun, engaging and educational activities, all with a seasonal festive touch. Children will have the chance to: explore a torch-lit trail of the Dinosaurs gallery, get creative with a Christmas-decoration-making workshop, enjoy festive treats and learn about winter animals in an educational science show. At midnight, it's time to settle down in Hintze Hall, and sleep under the watchful gaze of Hope the blue whale. The next morning, they'll feast on breakfast before experiencing a live animal show, all before the Museum opens to the public at 10am. Pretty epic!

[www.nhm.ac.uk](http://www.nhm.ac.uk)

## EDU-TAINMENT SWIM CLUBS

Abu Dhabi Moments, an initiative by the Department of Community Development, has launched Kids Water Academy on Hudayriyat Island, with the aim to expand kids' aquatic skills beyond the norm, and inspire an active and safer lifestyle for children. Also promoting inclusion and a strong sense of community through a range of activities and community events over a seven-week programme, children will have the opportunity to learn water sports, and will be equipped with essential lifeguard and first-aid skills. Upon completion, children will also receive a certificate from Abu Dhabi Hawksbill Academy. The free classes take place at the beach area of Hudayriyat Island from 3.30-5.30pm every Sunday and Tuesday, and are open to children aged 6-14 years.

[www.abudhabimoments.ae](http://www.abudhabimoments.ae)







### HIGH-OCTANE FUN

For festive fun with a difference, Southeast Asia's largest theme Park, Universal Studios in Singapore, is the ultimate adrenalin-fuelled, child-friendly escape. Spend the day among much-loved characters, such as Elmo and the ever-popular Minions, ride wild roller coasters or walk among the special festive-themed parade. The Four Seasons Hotel Singapore is the perfect base, and with its Stay Longer – Third Night Free offer, you can make your theme park hat-trick, because two days is never enough, is it? [www.fourseasons.com](http://www.fourseasons.com)



### A CHRISTMAS CAROL

Heading to London? Then take your kids to see Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* at Greenwich Theatre Studio on December 9 and 23. Join Scrooge on his magical journey, as he's visited by the ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Yet To Come, transforming from the ultimate Christmas grinch, into a far kinder, gentler soul, in a show that embraces the story's classical origins and brims with heart-warming Christmas spirit. A lovely tale of love, friendship and philanthropy. [www.europeanarts.co.uk](http://www.europeanarts.co.uk)



### STYLING UP THE SEASON

It's Christmas and that means only one thing... It's time to dig out your winter woollies and wrap up warm. Angels boutique in The Dubai Mall has all your kids' knitwear needs covered. Stocking designer childrenswear brands from Givenchy to Chloé to Stella McCartney (pictured), with everything from puffer jackets and skiwear to toastie baby onesies and snuggly hoodies for children aged 0-12, the boutique has a potpourri of festive buys for little fashionistas. [www.angelskids.ae](http://www.angelskids.ae)



### HELLO, LITTLE CHEF

Got a budding chef, concierge or front of house officer in your family? Waldorf Astoria Ras Al Khaimah's 'Little Hotelier' experience gives kids the opportunity to participate in all the responsibilities and duties of the hotel team, so they can learn the ropes of working in a hospitality. They'll each get a personalised uniform and name tag, and will spend half a day shadowing various staff members resulting in a unique, engaging and educational adventure. [www.hilton.com](http://www.hilton.com)



# WINTER Frost

To frost yourself in diamonds must surely be the most fanciful way to usher in the festive season. Let these pieces be our gift to you...

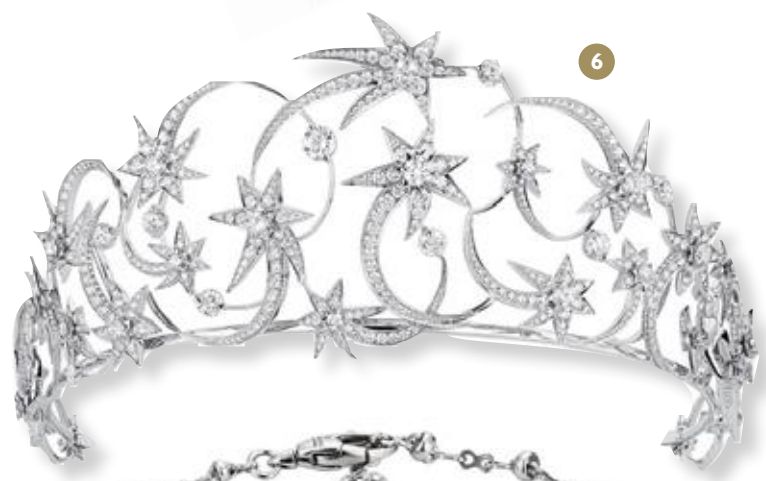
Compiled by: Emily Baxter-Priest

## **BABY, IT'S A WONDERLAND**

A celebration of the Roman passion for life, Bvlgari's new Fiorever collection immortalises ephemeral flowers in everlasting diamonds. The perfect High Jewellery accompaniment for the festive season, this all-diamond collection features pavé necklaces, bracelets and earrings in a cascade of Fiorever diamonds and flowers. Joyful, elegant, triumphant.



- 1. Tiara, Tiffany & Co.
- 2. Happy Hearts bracelet, Chopard
- 3. Torque earrings, Boucheron
- 4. Perlee Clovers bracelet, Van Cleef & Arpels
- 5. Diamond earrings, Jacob&Co
- 6. Soleil Glorieux tiara, Chaumet
- 7. Diamond earrings, deGrisogono
- 8. Fiorever diamond necklace, Bvlgari
- 9. Flora bracelet, Gucci
- 10. Lucky Move ring, Messika





# RINGING IN CHANGE

Count down to the new year with a  
timepiece that exudes the beauty  
of after-dark drama and let diamonds  
fuel your festive fantasies



Serpenti Seduttori  
watches with 18ct  
white gold cases and  
set with diamonds  
[www.bulgari.com](http://www.bulgari.com)







Allegria watch with polished white gold case set with white diamonds  
www.degrisogono.com



Winston Kaleidoscope High Jewelry watch with 71 brilliant-cut diamonds  
www.harrywinston.com



Millenary frosted gold Philosophique watch  
www.audemarspiguet.com

DG7 watch with white diamonds  
www.dolcegabbana.com



Classique watch in 18ct gold, with 88 diamonds and mother-of-pearl dial  
www.breguet.com



Fendimania limited edition watch, fully paved with brilliant-cut diamonds  
www.fendi.com



50th El Primero Anniversary A384 revival  
www.zenith-watches.com



Portofino Automatic Moon Phase watch  
www.iwc.com









THE BRUTE IN A  
**SUIT**

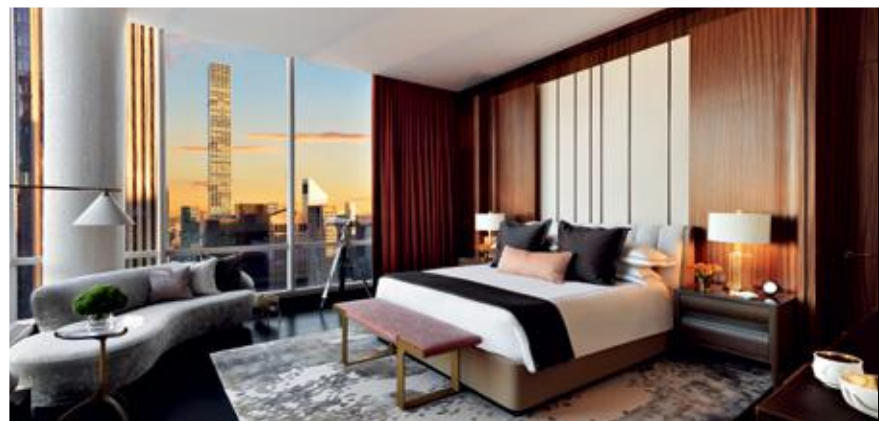
The Aston Martin Superleggera is yet another masterpiece from the British car maker. Does it stand out enough to justify the price? Kris Karacinski finds out

PHOTOGRAPHY: Eliot Sleep



SPEND IT OUT OF THIS WORLD

# THE SKY'S THE LIMIT



## Park Hyatt New York's new Manhattan Sky Suite steals the crown as the most exquisite and extravagant way to spend the holidays

FEW CITIES ON EARTH CONJURE UP the notion of a magical Christmas quite like New York, with its Rockefeller ice rink, FAO Schwarz window displays, and horse and carriage rides round a snowy Central Park. But, baby it's cold outside, and everyone needs a beautiful hotel in which to warm up and bed down. Park Hyatt New York has seriously upped the ante, recently throwing open the doors to its new Manhattan Sky Suite, on the 59th floor of the One57 luxury residential tower. As one can imagine with a name like that, the suite offers unparalleled and unobstructed 360° views over Manhattan and Central Park, and wears the crown as the highest suite in New York. The 4,200 square-foot residential penthouse, designed by Jeffrey Beers International, features: three bedrooms, 11-foot high floor-to-ceiling windows, a Grand Salon Living Area, private bar, fire place, dining room seating 10 people, and

a full chef's kitchen, with professional-grade Miele appliances, powder room, frette linen in the bedrooms, a personally-styled walk-in closet by Nordstrom NYC, marble-clad bathrooms with Le Labo products, and walls bedecked with an art collection by Samuels Creative & Co. At \$50,000 per night, with a seven-night minimum reservation, you can relax safe in the knowledge that you've found your home-from-home for the holidays. With a private chef and personal butler dedicated to you throughout your stay, no wish will go unanswered, while daily spa treatments for you and up to six guests at the hotel's award-winning Spa Nalai will help ease you into the festive season. To ensure you also arrive and depart in style, the suite offers complimentary airport transfer via BLADE Helicopter. A truly wonderful place to spend the holidays, make a stay in the Manhattan Sky Suite your gift to yourself. [www.hyatt.com](http://www.hyatt.com)

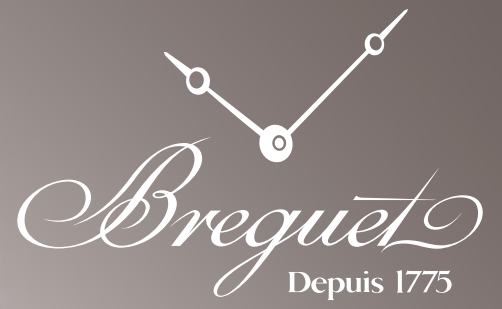


# BOUCHERON

PARIS







Breguet  
Depuis 1775



Breguet La Marine  
Marine Lady 9518

