

DESTINATIONS OF THE WORLD  
**news**

Essential travel intelligence

November 2020

**SUMMIT IN THE AIR**

Conquering peaks and other  
purposeful pursuits in Cape Town

**KYOTO'S NEW COOL**

Exploring the city's luxury  
hotel boom

**CALL OF THE WILD**

Private bubble safaris along  
the Zambezi at Matetsi  
Victoria Falls



**CHASING  
THE WINTER  
SUN**

SUN-KISSED HOLIDAYS  
A LITTLE LESS ORDINARY,  
FROM MADAGASCAR  
TO MARRAKECH

EXCLUSIVE TIMEPIECES



EXQUISITE JEWELS



UNIQUE ESCAPES



LUXURY CARS



OMEGA  
SWISS MADE



**007™** EDITION

SEAMASTER DIVER 300M  
MASTER CHRONOMETER

## JAMES BOND'S CHOICE

Trusted by the world's favourite spy, the newest 007 timepiece is built from lightweight titanium to give you freedom and strength on the wrist. It's no secret that the Master Chronometer certification guarantees the highest standard of precision and magnetic resistance, while the 5-year warranty offers plenty of time for some missions of your own.

  
**OMEGA**

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**MONT  
BLANC** 

# EXPLORER

THE NEW FRAGRANCE FOR MEN



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## TENTED LUXURY FOR THE MODERN TRAVELLER



**LIFE IN THE SERENGETI DEPENDS ON THE** ability to adapt to new situations and live in harmony with the landscape. So too in the world of luxury travel, where hoteliers must constantly ensure that they are meeting the demands of the current breed of travellers. It was with this in mind that Singita Sabora Tented Camp in Tanzania embarked on a major renovation that has seen the entire camp redesigned from the ground up.

But not that far up. Singita Sabora's nine tented suites – clad in natural shades of taupe, tan and beige – sit close to the ground so guests can enjoy an eye-level view of the herds that graze nearby and the other wildlife that quench

their thirst at the camp's two watering holes. Outdoor areas feature meditation decks and secluded outdoor salas for private, mindful moments, and inside, private fitness areas mean guests don't have to skip the workout while they're on holiday.

Interior Design studio Cécile & Boyd has layered the earth toned interiors with textures of mesh, canvas and weave, creating a distinctly modern interpretation of the traditional luxury safari camp, with natural and energy-efficient lighting to keep environmental impact to a minimum. GAPP Architects, which has worked on other Singita projects in Tanzania, South Africa and Rwanda, has laid out the tents

to maximise the views of the landscape and wildlife, using sustainable materials throughout.

Situated on the edge of the Great Migration route, guests at Singita Sabora can expect to see bountiful wildlife during game drives and guided safari walks, from fearsome predators to the Serengeti's more docile inhabitants.

Guests can also visit some of the 21 local communities supported by the Grumeti Fund Community Outreach Program and visit an anti-poaching observation post to learn about the efforts made by the fund's 120 scouts to reduce illegal poaching in the 350,000-acre concession. Prices start from \$1,650 per person per night.

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



## JOURNEY INTO THE HEART OF MARRAKECH

**SET IN THE HEART OF MARRAKECH'S** ancient medina, La Sultana Marrakech is a living work of art. The boutique hotel was built and crafted using traditional techniques from a bygone era, with hand-carved stones, intricate zellige tiles and tadelakt plaster preserving the cultural heritage of this UNESCO-listed corner of Morocco. Rather than just observing these artistic techniques, which have been handed down from generation to generation, guests can now embark on an hour-long Living Architectural Heritage Tour led by the hotel's architecture and heritage curators. Guides will reveal the history of ancient building techniques and take guests to visit the workshops where artisans practise their craft using traditional tools and methods. The tour is one of many activities guests at La Sultana can embark on to discover more about this fascinating city, from rooftop cooking classes and full-day urban safaris to a journey to the Agafay Desert and the foothills of the Atlas Mountains. [www.lasultanahotels.com](http://www.lasultanahotels.com)



## PURPOSEFUL PURSUITS IN CAPE TOWN

### ACTIVE EXPLORERS WHO SEEK

a sense of achievement when they travel might consider Cape Town for their next sojourn, thanks to a collection of curated natural experiences from One&Only Cape Town. Situated in the heart of the city just steps away from the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront, the hotel is dwarfed by the peaks of Table Mountain and Lion's Head; two ever present summits criss-crossed with hiking trails that afford epic views and photo opportunities for those who dare to tackle them.

Different trails leading up to the summits offer varying levels of difficulty, but the hotel's experienced hiking guides can advise on the best route based on fitness levels and athletic ability. Sunrise hikes afford the best views without the crowds, but the peaks can be climbed at any time of day. Early risers can arrange to be

dropped off at the trail head and make the ascent with a selection of gourmet treats courtesy of One&Only Cape Town. Guests can also book a private mountaintop yoga session on the top of Table Mountain to restore balance and harmony amid the spectacular natural surroundings, or explore the waters of the V&A Waterfront on water bike or stand-up paddle board.

For the ultimate luxury experience, guests can take a scenic helicopter flight from the hotel to the Overberg region east of Cape Town to visit the Inverroche Distillery, which pioneered the craft gin revolution in South Africa. After a tour and private tasting, guests can dine in the distillery restaurant or have a picnic in the grounds, before boarding the helicopter for the return flight to Cape Town.

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

## LUXURY LIVING ON MOROCCO'S ATLANTIC COAST



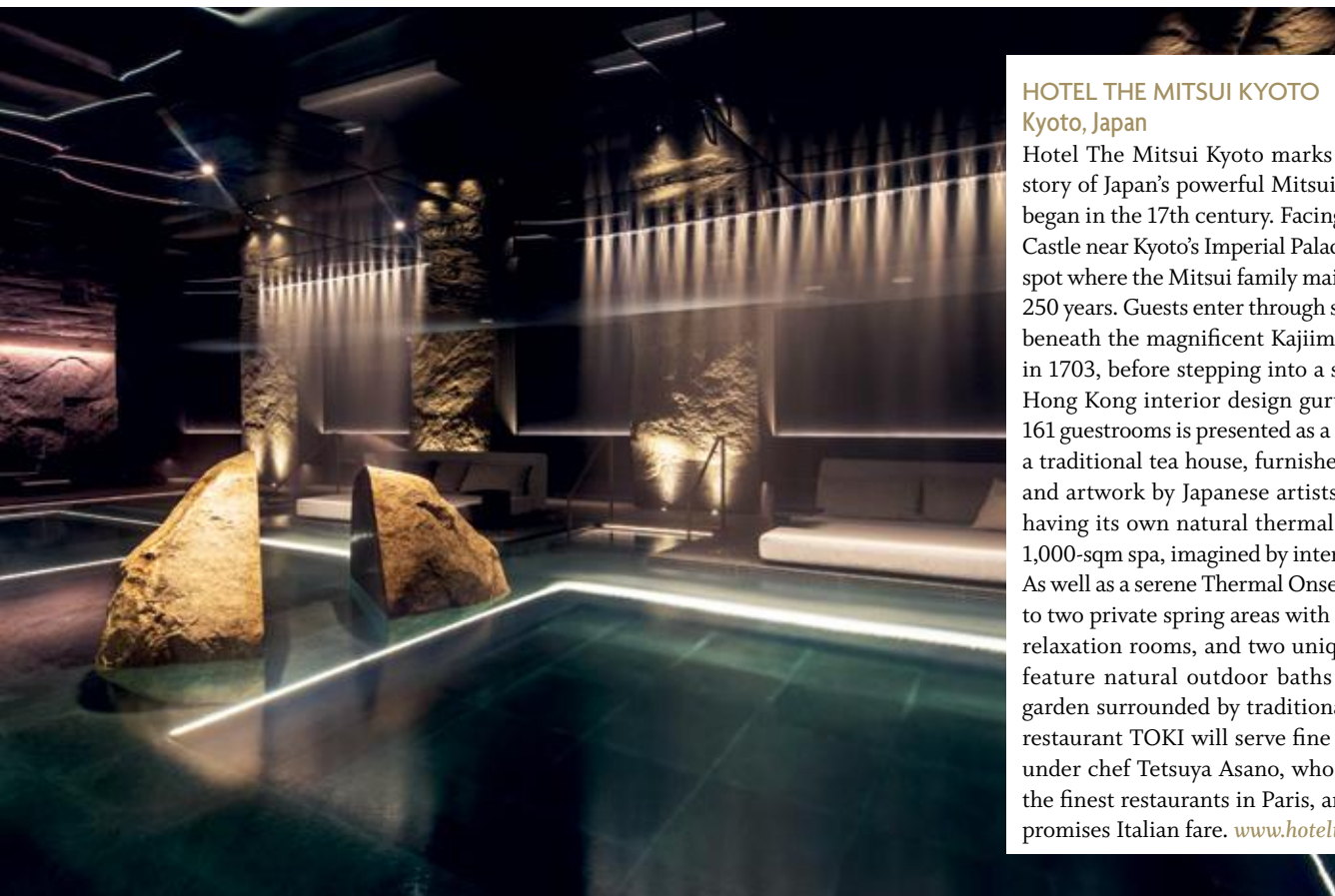
CONVENIENTLY LOCATED HALFWAY BETWEEN CASABLANCA and Fes, the Moroccan capital Rabat is the jumping off point for epic journeys into this colourful land. But with miles of Atlantic coastline on the doorstep and dozens of cultural and historical sites within the city itself, Rabat is an unmissable destination that's well worth exploring.

Fifteen kilometres to the southwest of the city, Conrad Rabat Arzana is set to open its doors next year as part of the glimmering Arzana

development, providing luxury living and first-class hospitality on the edge of the Atlantic. The resort is set on a small peninsula, with 120 rooms and suites offering spectacular views of the surrounding lagoon and beach, two restaurants featuring locally-inspired food, a pool lounge and indulgent spa and salon. In addition to the hotel, Arzana will be home to a collection of luxury villas and residences spread across the shoreline and set within lush gardens when complete. [www.conradhotels.com](http://www.conradhotels.com)

# Debut | November

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



## HOTEL THE MITSUI KYOTO Kyoto, Japan

Hotel The Mitsui Kyoto marks the next chapter in the story of Japan's powerful Mitsui family, an epic tale that began in the 17th century. Facing the eastern wall of Nijo Castle near Kyoto's Imperial Palace, the hotel stands on the spot where the Mitsui family maintained a home for some 250 years. Guests enter through seasonal gardens and pass beneath the magnificent Kajiimiya Gate, originally built in 1703, before stepping into a striking lobby created by Hong Kong interior design guru André Fu. Each of the 161 guestrooms is presented as a modern interpretation of a traditional tea house, furnished with natural materials and artwork by Japanese artists. The hotel is unique in having its own natural thermal spring, which feeds the 1,000-sqm spa, imagined by interior architect Yohei Akao. As well as a serene Thermal Onsen Spring, the spa is home to two private spring areas with gardens, living areas and relaxation rooms, and two unique Onsen Suites, which feature natural outdoor baths in a private lantern-lit garden surrounded by traditional stone walls. Signature restaurant TOKI will serve fine French-Japanese cuisine under chef Tetsuya Asano, who cut his teeth at some of the finest restaurants in Paris, and all-day dining FORNI promises Italian fare. [www.hotelthemitsui.com](http://www.hotelthemitsui.com)

## ONE&ONLY MANDARINA Riviera Nayarit, Mexico

One hour north of Puerto Vallarta, you'll find Riviera Nayarit, an untouched wilderness at the foot of the Sierra del Vallejo mountains, where One&Only Mandarinina is set to make its debut. Nestled among the treetops high above the ocean, 104 villas are designed to blend into the environment, with private plunge pools and spacious outdoor terraces scattered across the hillside. Interiors feature polished cement floors and hardwood ceilings that taper upwards to a glass skylight apex, mirroring the temples of Mexico's ingenious peoples. In addition to the villas, 54 One&Only Mandarinina Private Homes will provide luxury living for well-heeled investors looking to own one of the world's first One&Only residences, each designed to make the most of its hillside location with infinity pools and abundant outdoor spaces. The private moorings at The Jetty also serve as the jumping off point for whale-watching and fishing trips. Set in a spectacular clifftop location, Carao promises head-spinning Mexican cuisine courtesy of super-chef Enrique Olvera, while catch of the day awaits at The Jetty Beach Club.

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







#### SOFITEL DUBAI THE OBELISK Dubai, UAE

Towering skywards from WAFI shopping mall, Sofitel Dubai The Obelisk brings a hint of ancient Egyptian wonder and a dash of French charm to Dubai's luxury landscape. Set within a 230-metre tower crowned with a golden pyramid that shines above the skyline, the hotel's exterior takes inspiration from the Luxor Obelisk in Paris' Place de la Concord. Inside, WA International Dubai Interior Design Studio has infused Art Deco interiors with Egyptian imagery and Emirati symbolism, creating a modern marvel that pays homage to the past. Statues of ancient mythological beings usher guests through a golden gateway into the lobby, where soaring pillars engraved with hieroglyphics surround an imposing nine-metre golden falcon and two stained-glass Tiffany lamp-inspired chandeliers, hand crafted in Egypt. Among the 498 guestrooms and 97 serviced apartments, three signature suites designed by Italian firm Duccio Grassi Architects stand out as the peak of luxury living. The Imperial Suite, Presidential Suite and Ambassador Suite span the upper floors of the hotel, with acres of marble throughout and, in the case of the Presidential Suite, a private terrace offering spectacular views of Dubai. Five distinct dining venues on offer include an outpost of Brasserie Boulud, while the irresistible allure of the Sofitel SPA with L'Occitane will sate all the senses. [www.sofitel-dubai-theobelisk.com](http://www.sofitel-dubai-theobelisk.com)



#### THE ARTIST RESIDENCE BRISTOL Bristol, UK

Creative spirit bursts from The Artist Residence Bristol, the fifth boutique bolthole from founders Justin and Charlie Salisbury, whose homely hotels have earned a dedicated following since the first one opened in 2008. Set on the corner of the historic Grade-I listed Portland Square, once home to the city's wealthy merchants, the Georgian-fronted townhouse has been given a new lease of life by the artistic duo. 23 rooms and suites are decorated in an eclectic mixture of antique, vintage and salvaged furniture, with colourful rugs by Francesca Gentili and lively artworks by local and national talent including Bristol artists Rose Vickers and Kedals, and Brighton neon artist Andy Doig. Some, including the two master suites that look out over Portland Square, feature double-height ceilings, reclaimed wooden floors and period fireplaces. Original design elements have been preserved throughout the renovation, hinting at the building's former incarnation as a boot factory. An intimate lounge-bar and restaurant, with exposed brick walls and concrete floors provides an industrial backdrop in the main skylit bar area, and intimate corners for all-day dining or creative cocktails. Much of the food and beverage is sourced from local suppliers, including three local breweries and nearby Extract Coffee Roasters. [www.artistresidence.co.uk](http://www.artistresidence.co.uk)



HERE COMES THE WINTER  
**SUN**

If there was ever a time to escape the day-to-day, it is now. So, plan your winter sojourns to somewhere a little less ordinary and let travel nourish your soul

**WORDS:** Georgie Bradley





## GREEN WITH ENVY

Without doubt one of the most visually arresting hotels in the UAE, Park Hyatt Dubai is a cornucopia of nature and serenity, providing a true urban hideaway. The hotel's 'Stay & Play' offer melds a stellar round of golf on one of Dubai's most picturesque Championship courses with an unforgettable stay in this luxurious bucolic bolt-hole. Once you've knocked your way round the 18-hole course, make acquaintances with the lagoon, the palm-fringed pool and, the hotel's tour de force, the Amara Spa. Then book in at Noepe, for a starry-skied night to remember. [www.hyatt.com](http://www.hyatt.com)



# Arabian Journeys

This month you'll find artistic escapes and theatrical staycations in Dubai to oh-so-relaxing retreats in Oman. Time to get packing...



## ART FROM THE HEART

In its continued support of Dubai's eclectic art and design community, Andaz Dubai The Palm has launched a special art offer, meaning that guests who book into a Royal Suite or Prince Suite from now until December 31, will be gifted an artwork by local artist, Mahmood Alabadi. Curator of every piece that can be seen throughout the hotel, Mahmood's love of the UAE's culture can be felt in every nook and cranny. Now you too can own a slice of artistic history combined with a stay in one of the city's coolest and most eclectic hotels.

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

## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Rewarding those who call Dubai home, Four Seasons Resort Dubai at Jumeirah (and also Four Seasons Hotel DIFC) is giving UAE residents an all-access pass to the resort. You'll get 30 per cent off best rates on suites, which includes a guaranteed upgrade, an early check-in/late check-out, a glass of bubbly from one of the hotel's bars (our advice, make a beeline to Mercury for the best views of Burj Khalifa), and 30 minutes complimentary if you book a 60-minute spa treatment.

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



## HOTELS STAYCATIONS

### THE ULTIMATE CITY SLICKER

Help us in our quest to support local businesses and bed down at Zabeel House by Jumeirah for your next staycation. A contemporary boutique hotel buzzing with good energy and style, the hotel is just what you want out of a neighbourhood hangout. Its 'Ultimate Weekender' offer gives guests breakfast for two, followed by brunch at Lah Lah Asian restaurant, four-post lunch drinks, a relaxing massage at the Native Club Spa (the first all-organic spa in Dubai, we should add), free entry to Wild Wadi Waterpark (we'd recommend trying this before brunch!) and late check-out at 5pm. With its 'high on design, low on complexity' ethos, you can rest assured that your stay will be calm, casual and very, very cool.

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



### PUTTING THE OH INTO OMAN

Reopened and celebrating with its guests, Al Baleed Resort Salalah by Anantara lets you escape to the beach in the beauty and tranquillity so synonymous of Oman. Help celebrate with the hotel's GCC residents offer, with a private pool villa, daily breakfast and 30 per cent discount at Anantara Spa and all its restaurants. Or, stay five nights in this majestic property, and get even more savings on your room or villa, with complimentary mini-bar, a BBQ dinner, two massages and free laundry. We'll toast to that.

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





# NO ADULTS ALLOWED

Our pick of the best child-friendly things to do, try and buy this month, from surfing waves on dry land in the Indian Ocean and thrill-seeking rooftop karting adventures to learning life skills at the Bear Grylls Survival Academy



## SURF'S UP IN PARADISE

Already a firm favourite for die-hard luxury seekers, Cheval Blanc Randheli in the Maldives has just upped its cool quota by opening the region's first 'Surf Simulator' - a safe but thrilling way to experience surfing regardless of the ocean's conditions. With the island's Ambassadeurs on hand to coach the kids to ride the board and carve wake in the lagoon, new skills will be learned, waves caught and fun had. The Surf Simulator complements Cheval Blanc's already vast roster of water activities, that includes the Seabob, Fly

Board, Hoverboard, Jet-Ski, snorkelling, day and night dives, sailing, sandbank dinners, sunset cruises, all ensuring days upon days of fun for kids and adults. Once back on dry land, pack the kids off to Le Carousel, the island's colourful kids club with its private pool and never-ending list of creative activities for little ones, or to Le Paddock, a place the big kids will thank you for, with its treasure hunts, video games, billiards, table football and tournaments.

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



## KEEPING THE KIDS HAPPY

One of the region's favourite interactive play areas, Droplets by Caboodle (left), has landed a new location at The Galleria Mall in Abu Dhabi, bringing even more of the outdoor in for under-6s, with its cutting-edge interiors, sensory rooms, water and light activities, jungle gym, pirate ship playhouse and, for the parents, a coffee shop. Woo-hoo! (right) is a new state-of-the-art edutainment centre in Al Quoz, Dubai, that allows curious kids to learn through hands-on play, with 10 different galleries and over 50 interactive exhibits to immerse themselves in, for pure non-stop fun.

[www.caboodle.ae](http://www.caboodle.ae) / [www.woo-hoo.ae](http://www.woo-hoo.ae)

**GRIN AND BEAR IT**

If your kids fancy themselves as a bit of a Bear Grylls or you simply want to throw a bit of outdoor action at them, sign them up to Bear Grylls' very first Explorers Camp, that has just opened on Jebel Jais in Ras Al Khaimah. Experiencing an adventure of a lifetime, the instructor-led Survival Academy courses include a half-day, full-day or 24-hour option for kids aged eight and above, introducing them to practical and extreme survival techniques. Your outdoor enthusiasts will make a fire in the wilderness, learn survival knife skills, build an emergency shelter, abseil off a cliff, scramble up a mountain and swot up on navigation techniques, extreme weather survival, and remote medical trauma treatment. There could even be bug-eating involved, but it's all part of the experience! Overnight accommodation will be available as of next year, with beds, BBQ and a night in nature. The Bear Grylls Survival Academy courses start from Dhs450.

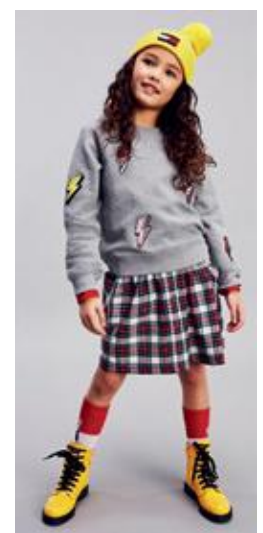
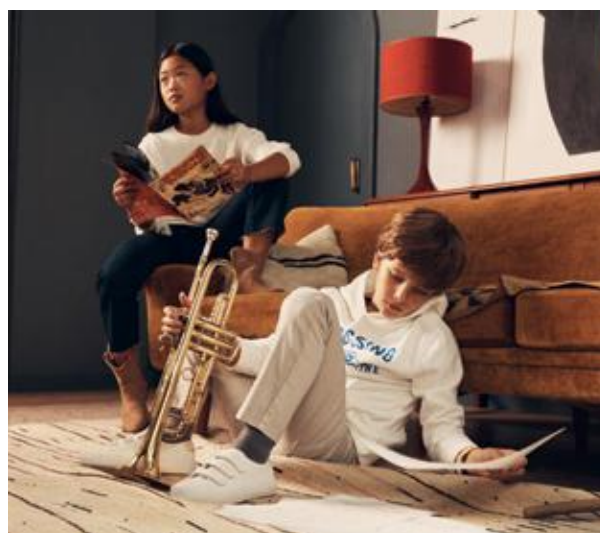
[www.beargryllscamp.ae](http://www.beargryllscamp.ae)



**A NEED FOR SPEED**

Something new for thrill-seekers is Ekart Rooftop Racing at its new location at The Dubai Mall Zabeel, the UAE's first and only electric karting experience. Let your kids practice their driving skills on the open-air track, racing around the ninth floor rooftop at top speeds, with Burj Khalifa as their backdrop. It's an environmentally-friendly way to get an adrenalin kick too, and there's food truck on site to further fuel your ravenous racer.

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



**DRESSING UP DAY**

Three cool collections worth clearing out your kids' wardrobe for: Stella McCartney's inclusive capsule collection (left) celebrates self-expression, individuality and diversity in the next generation with tailoring, graphics and urban energy designed for everyone to wear. (left); Mango's latest

denim range (middle) is designed to ensure ultimate style and comfort and is a celebration of creativity and the spirit of community; while Tommy Hilfiger Kids' collaboration with illustrator Jeremyville (right) uses art as a tool to promote positive change, thinking, connection and empowerment.

[www.stellamccartney.com](http://www.stellamccartney.com) / [www.mango.com](http://www.mango.com) / [www.tommy.com](http://www.tommy.com)

# BOUCHERON

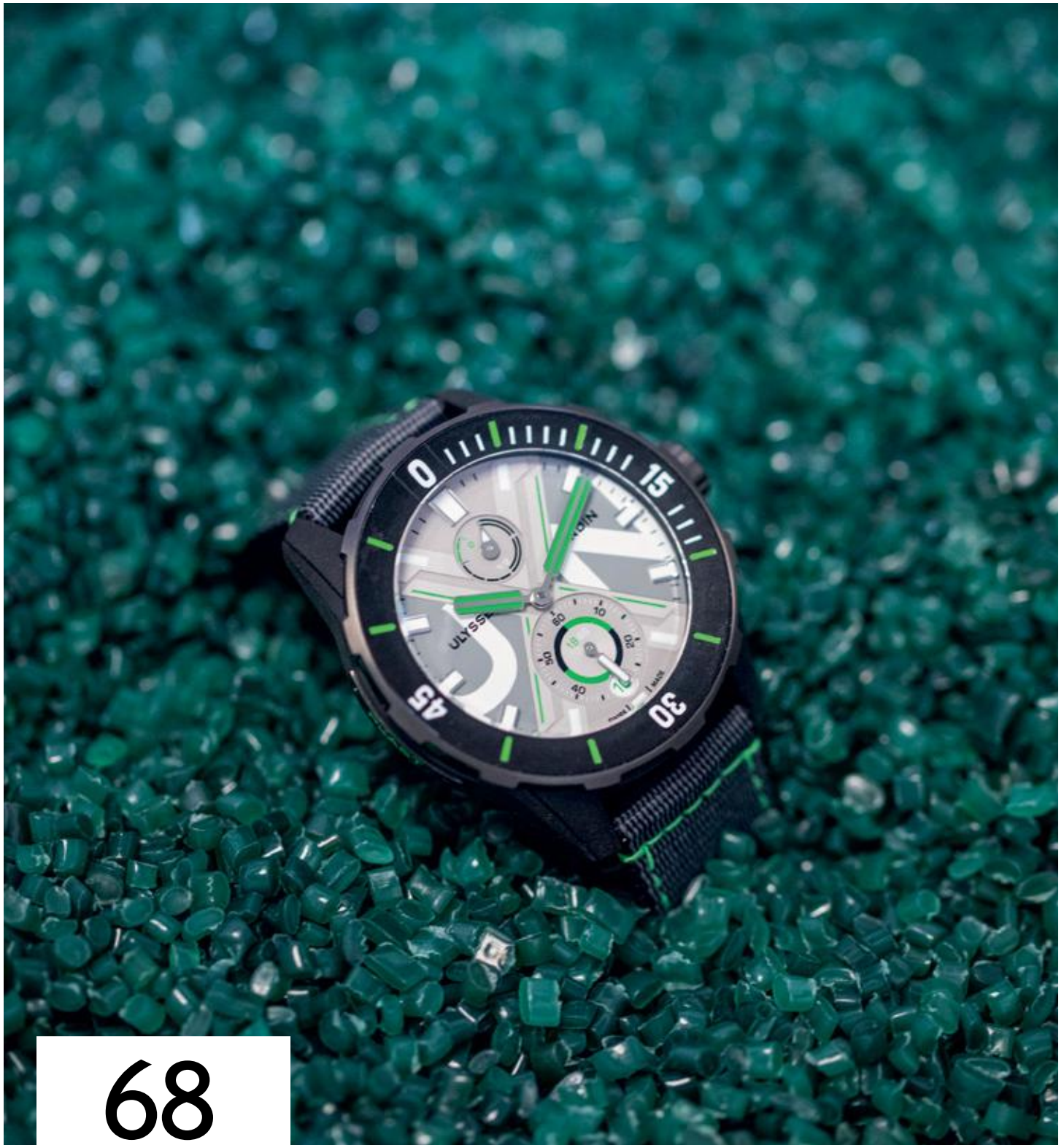
PARIS





# SPEND IT

UNIQUE EXPERIENCES AND SOPHISTICATED ESSENTIALS



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#### A WATCH'S LIFE (RE)CYCLE

From the sea to the wrist, Ulysse Nardin's Diver Net watch delivers a message of sustainability, as the brand focuses its efforts on reducing marine pollution and using recyclable materials recovered from the sea. On this occasion, discarded fishing nets have been recovered, and gone through a process of cleaning, grinding, granulation and extrusion to fabricate the case, middle, back and bezel of the Diver Net, while the strap is woven from PET plastic found in the sea.

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## CALL OF THE WILD

A private airstrip, helipad and your very own ‘bubble safari’ – this Zimbabwean riverside lodge is upping the ante for a socially-distanced wildlife experience

**WHEN IT COMES TO SAFARI EXPERIENCES** Kenya and South Africa usually win the popularity vote, but those wanting something more private and unparalleled would do well to point their compass towards Zimbabwe, a country known for its dramatic landscape and diverse wildlife. One way to do this in style is with Matetsi Victoria Falls, a beautiful lodge with its own private section of the Zambezi River where you can call 136,000 acres your back garden. Not only that, but the lodge has just opened its own private airstrip, to compliment its private helipad, enabling socially-distanced travel from take-off to touch-down. Guests can stay Matetsi’s West Camp (one of the two camps at Matetsi Victoria Falls), with its seven rooms and one family room, accommodating 14

adults, or if you’re looking to hideaway en masse, you can hire the whole lodge, which ensures the 136,000 acre Matetsi Private Game Reserve and nine miles of Zambezi River frontage are for you and you alone. Either way, silver service awaits in your ‘safari bubble’, with a private chef and butler, private safari vehicles, and personal guides and trackers to help you tick elephant, buffalo, lion and leopard off your must-see list. Early-rise safaris are complemented with canoe excursions, fishing trips, walking tours of Victoria Falls, sunset cruises and night drives, with tired bodies brought back to life in the spa, library, 20 metre lap pool and private wine cellar. Safaris and solitude... Has quite a nice ring to it. [www.matetsivictoriafalls.com](http://www.matetsivictoriafalls.com)



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