

DESTINATIONS OF THE WORLD  
**news**

Essential travel intelligence

April 2021

**WHEN NATURE CALLS**

Glamping in the Indian Ocean  
has never looked more luxe

**BLINDING LIGHTS**

Why stargazing in AlUla  
will leave you spellbound

**ARABIAN SOUL**

Spices, Omani overtures and  
Zanzibar's vibrant Swahili culture

ESCAPE TO THE  
**MALDIVES**

PRIVATE ISLANDS, EXCLUSIVE VILLAS AND IDYLIC FAMILY RETREATS



EXCLUSIVE TIMEPIECES



EXQUISITE JEWELS



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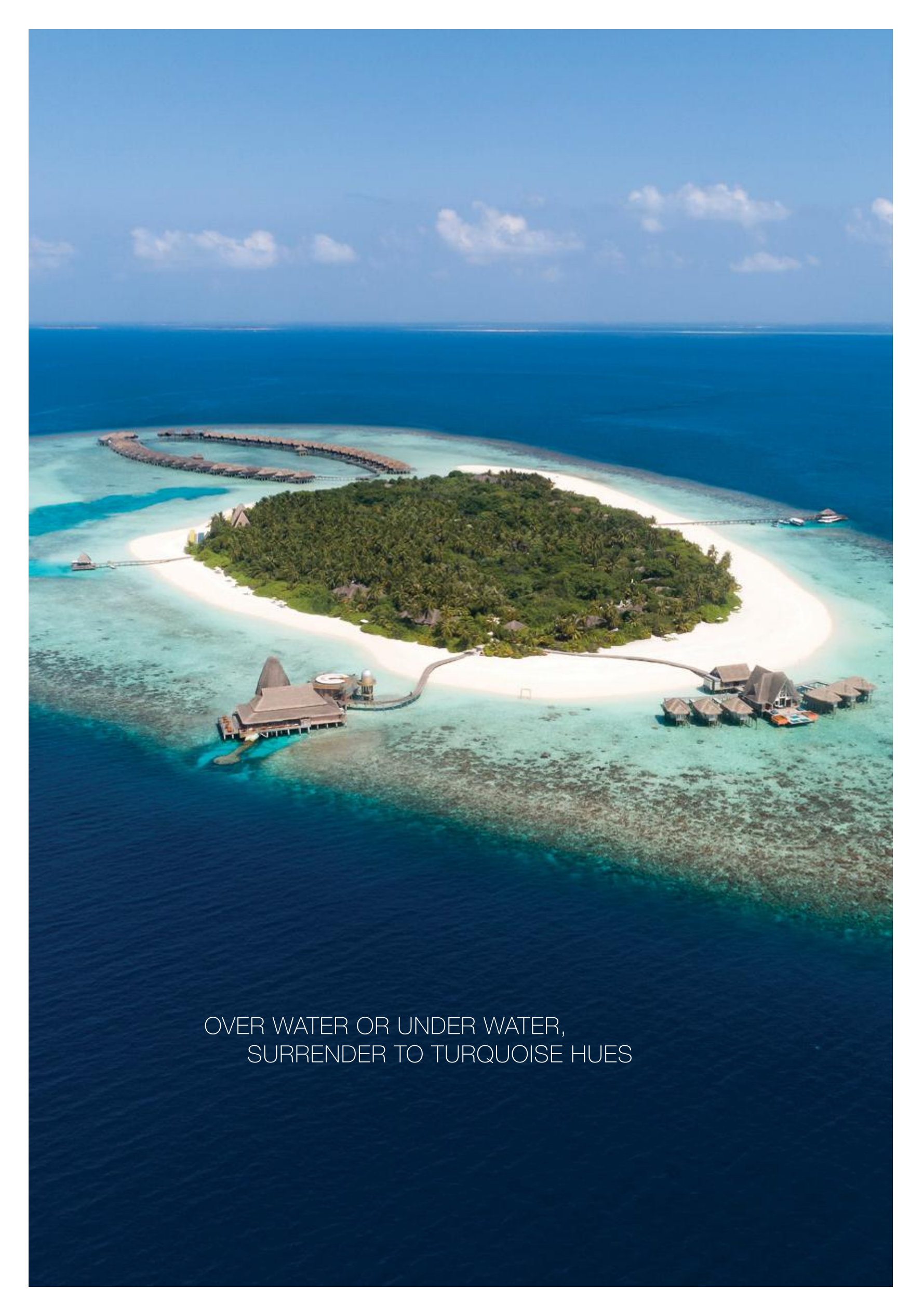


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**ANANTARA**  
KIHAVAH · MALDIVES  
VILLAS



An aerial photograph of a tropical island resort. The central island is lush with green palm trees and has a white sandy beach. A long, winding wooden walkway connects the central island to several clusters of overwater bungalows. One large bungalow complex is in the foreground, and another long, curved row of bungalows is in the background. The water is a vibrant turquoise near the shore, transitioning to a deep blue further out. The sky is a clear, bright blue with a few wispy white clouds.

OVER WATER OR UNDER WATER,  
SURRENDER TO TURQUOISE HUES







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*Taj Exotica Resort & Spa spreads idyllically along a pristine beach and serene lagoon, only 15-20 minutes away from Male' International Airport via luxury speedboat available 24-hours. This award-winning resort seamlessly extends the magic of the island's blessed natural beauty in its design even as it offers the finest in contemporary luxuries and services. Each of the resort's luxuriously designed 64 villas is furnished in natural tones & textures and offer ocean views with personalized Butler Service, luxury amenities and more. Jiva Grand Spa, an authentic Indian spa, offers a range of signature wellness experiences. A choice of gourmet cuisine, water sport and recreation make for a complete and exclusive destination.*



Ranked "2nd Best Resort in the Indian Ocean" and "8th Best Resort in the World"  
by Conde Nast Traveler U.S. Reader's Choice Award 2018

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EXOTICA RESORT & SPA  
MALDIVES



# CONTENTS

April 2021

## IN THE NEWS

### 18 Europe

Spring has arrived in the Italian Riviera; Capri's oldest hotel joins the Oetker Collection; Room with a view in Santorini

### 20 Middle East & Africa

Discover the soul of Qatar with The Chedi; Rebirth of an Arabian icon; A peek inside Kruger without the tourists

### 22 Asia & Oceania

Find the real Shangri-La with Lux\* Tea Horse Road; Island-hopping in the Maldives; The Maldives' new loyalty programme

### 24 Americas

Smooth sailing travel with Aman; Ennismore takes lifestyle global; Own a slice of Latin America's first integrated wellness retreat

### 26 Debut

Hot hotels, chic boutiques and exclusive new resorts

### 28 Gourmet News

Boulud in the Bahamas; More cravings with Marriott; The New Nobu; When the Aegean washes into Arabia

### 30 Restaurant Review

How Roka's new 10-course tasting menu puts humble ingredients in the spotlight

### 32 Ramadan Dining

Beautiful places to break fast and Suhoor in style with family and friends

## DESTINATIONS

### 36 In Search of Serenity

A soulful escape to Ozen Reserve Bolifushi recalibrates more than the mind

### 44 Best of the Maldives

14 idyllic Indian Ocean island escapes, private villas and exclusive retreats

### 58 Arabian Soul

Spices, Omani overtures and the vibrant Swahili culture of Zanzibar

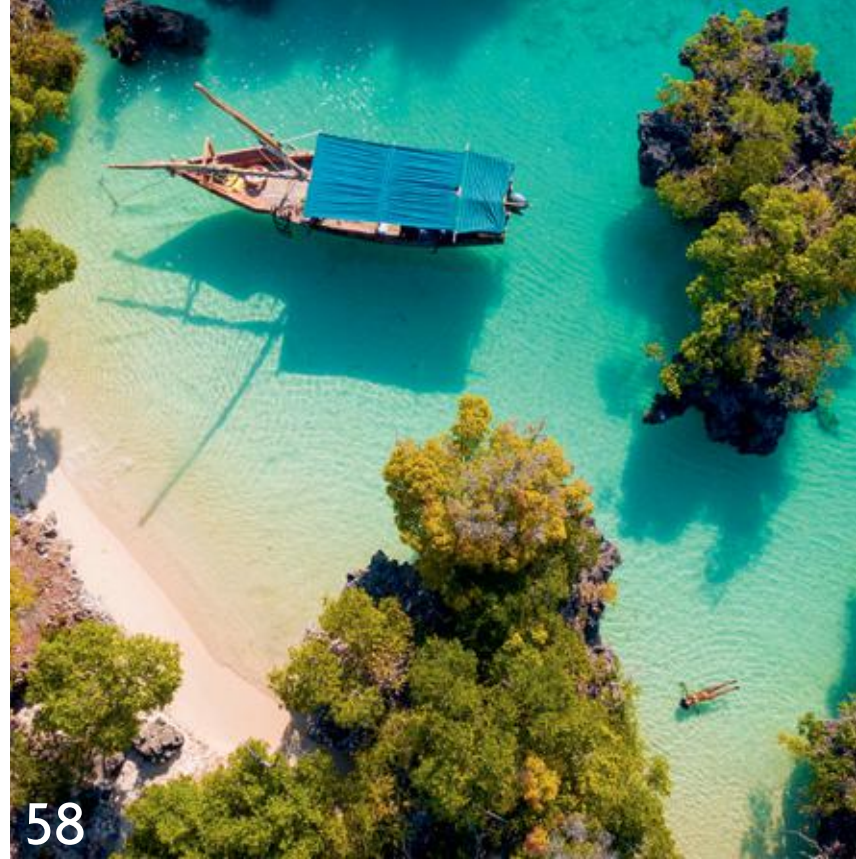
### 66 24 Hours In Monaco

How to live life in the fast lane during next month's Monaco Grand Prix

19



66



58

## HOTELS

### 74 Suite Dreams

A night of quiet luxury at a palace beyond the palms, in the Ottoman-inspired Ajman Saray

### 76 Arabian Journeys

Elegant staycations and five-star Eid escapes across the Middle East, from city to shoreline

### 68 No Adults Allowed

The luxury travel intel all the cool kids are talking about, from stargazing in ALUla to glamping in Abu Dhabi



74

## SPEND IT

### 68 Jewels

Hello spring! A blanket of pastel hues introduces the prettiest of all seasons

### 70 Watches

Celebrate a life in contrast with striking two-tonal monochrome timepieces

### 72 When Nature Calls

Five-star glamping arrives in the Indian Ocean, with Amilla Maldives' nature-infused beach bubble tent experience

72







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# NEWS

HOT EVENTS, NEW HOTELS AND GLOBAL JET-SETTERS



## 19

### ROOM WITH A VIEW

Head for the Aegean this Eid Al Fitr to languish in a 22-metre cliffside infinity pool to the backdrop of the best sunset views in Santorini. The epitome of island chic, with its white-washed walls and laid-back living, Grace Hotel's new two-bed hideaway – The Villa – is where those-in-the-know book, revelling in its private chef, butler, wine and cigar bar, plunge pool and hammam.

- 18** **NEWS** Luxe travel updates from around the world
- 26** **DEBUT** Our pick of the best new hotels
- 28** **GOURMET** Culinary updates, from near and far
- 30** **CULINARY REVIEW** How Roka's new 10-course tasting menu puts humble ingredients in the spotlight
- 32** **RAMADAN DINING** Where to break fast in style



# Debut | April

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



**CAN FERRERETA**  
Mallorca, Spain

Hidden away in the quiet town of Santanyi in southern Mallorca, Can Ferrereta is an urban hideaway that feels like a rural escape. Verdant gardens and tall cypress trees surround the 17th century townhouse, which has been meticulously restored by homegrown BASTIDAS Architecture to create a 32-room rustic chic boutique. Spanish design firm WIT has layered the interiors with contrasting textures and materials: old wooden beams and original stonework that work in harmony with modern, bespoke furnishings and a collection of contemporary art from local and Spanish artists. Most of the rooms and suites boast private patios and terraces overlooking the Mediterranean gardens, which are bursting with bougainvillea and jasmine, while the signature Pool Suite has its own idyllic garden and pool. Treatments at SA CALMA SPA are infused with natural local products – rosemary and lavender, oranges from nearby Sóller and microalgae and sea mud from the Med – as well as bespoke products from Anne Semonin. It's a similarly homegrown affair at OCRE, where simple seasonal dishes will be packed with local produce and a market day lunch menu will showcase the best of what the island has to offer.

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

**THE ST. REGIS ALMASA**  
Cairo, Egypt

Egypt's New Administrative Capital is quickly rising from the desert east of Cairo, forming a new hub for the country's ministerial departments and government bodies, as well as the raft of businesses that are surging into the area. St. Regis has chosen the burgeoning city as the site for its second hotel in Egypt; The St. Regis Almasa, a gleaming collection of 360 rooms and suites, 60 private apartments and 14 villas. All of the guestrooms benefit from the legendary St. Regis Butler Service and feature private balconies or patios overlooking the swimming pool, which is surrounded by the elegant neo-classical architecture of this sprawling hotel. Soaring windows allow daylight to flood into the Café Royal lobby lounge, where St Regis' signature Afternoon Tea is served daily. Traditional Italian dishes are brought to life at La Sponda, and a collection of new restaurants and dining experiences is set to be announced soon. Trio Club House is home to a Moroccan hammam and fitness centre, spa, indoor and outdoor pools and an artificial beach. The focal point, however, is the Almasa Convention Centre, where global summits and international events will help shape the future of this rapidly changing country. [www.marriott.com](http://www.marriott.com)







#### W OSAKA Osaka, Japan

The black, monolithic façade of W Osaka belies the bright and opulent welcome that awaits inside, as W makes its long-awaited debut in Japan. Designed by Osaka-born architect Tadao Ando, the minimalist exterior gives way to a vibrant vision of neon lights and colourful spaces within, paying tribute to Japan's Edo period, during which wealthy merchants disguised their affluence in public but showed off their riches in private. Inside, Amsterdam-based design studio concrete has created a vibrant world of striking design and vivid colours. Japanese themes and imagery are reflected throughout, from the striking LIVING ROOM, inspired by traditional Japanese Kawaii Kokeshi wooden dolls, to the alternating pink and blue colour themes on each floor, reflecting Japan's colourful cherry blossoms and the deep blue seas that surround the island nation. Among the 337 guestrooms and suites, the 27th floor Extreme WOW Penthouse Suite reigns supreme, with artwork by Dutch textile artist Sigrid Calon, whose work has been exhibited at MoMa in New York, and a huge chrome bathtub in the form of a reimaged champagne bucket. Whimsical touches abound, from the Zen-inspired Garden Room that welcomes guests into the suite, to the built-in DJ booth, making this the ultimate party pad. And of course, you'll also find W signature touches like AWAY SPA and the poolside WET BAR: one of six bars and restaurants that make W Osaka a must-visit next time you're in town. [www.marriott.com](http://www.marriott.com)



#### INIALA HARBOUR HOUSE & RESIDENCES Valletta, Malta

Four traditional townhouses set atop the fortified walls of St Barbara Bastion in Valletta will emerge from a major transformation this month as Iniala Harbour House & Residences, bringing a heady blend of high design and first-class hospitality to the Maltese capital. The buildings have been brought back to life by three independent design studios – A-cero from Madrid, Istanbul-based Autoban and homegrown DAAA HAUS from Birkirkara – creating an eclectic collection of indoor spaces that blend Valletta's rich heritage with contemporary touches. Among the 23 rooms and suites, The Residences stand out as the cream of the crop, with unique features such as Maltese balconies, outdoor terraces and private courtyards with plunge pools, while The Hideaway offers a self-contained home-from-home, with two rooms and two suites spread across five floors. The hotel is situated just above the walls of the UNESCO World Heritage listed city, with deep vaults built into the rock that contain Iniala Spa and its underground pool, and a panoramic rooftop that's home to ION – The Harbour. Here, chef Andrew Borg will work culinary magic, with a daily changing four-course dinner menu. [www.inialamalta.com](http://www.inialamalta.com)



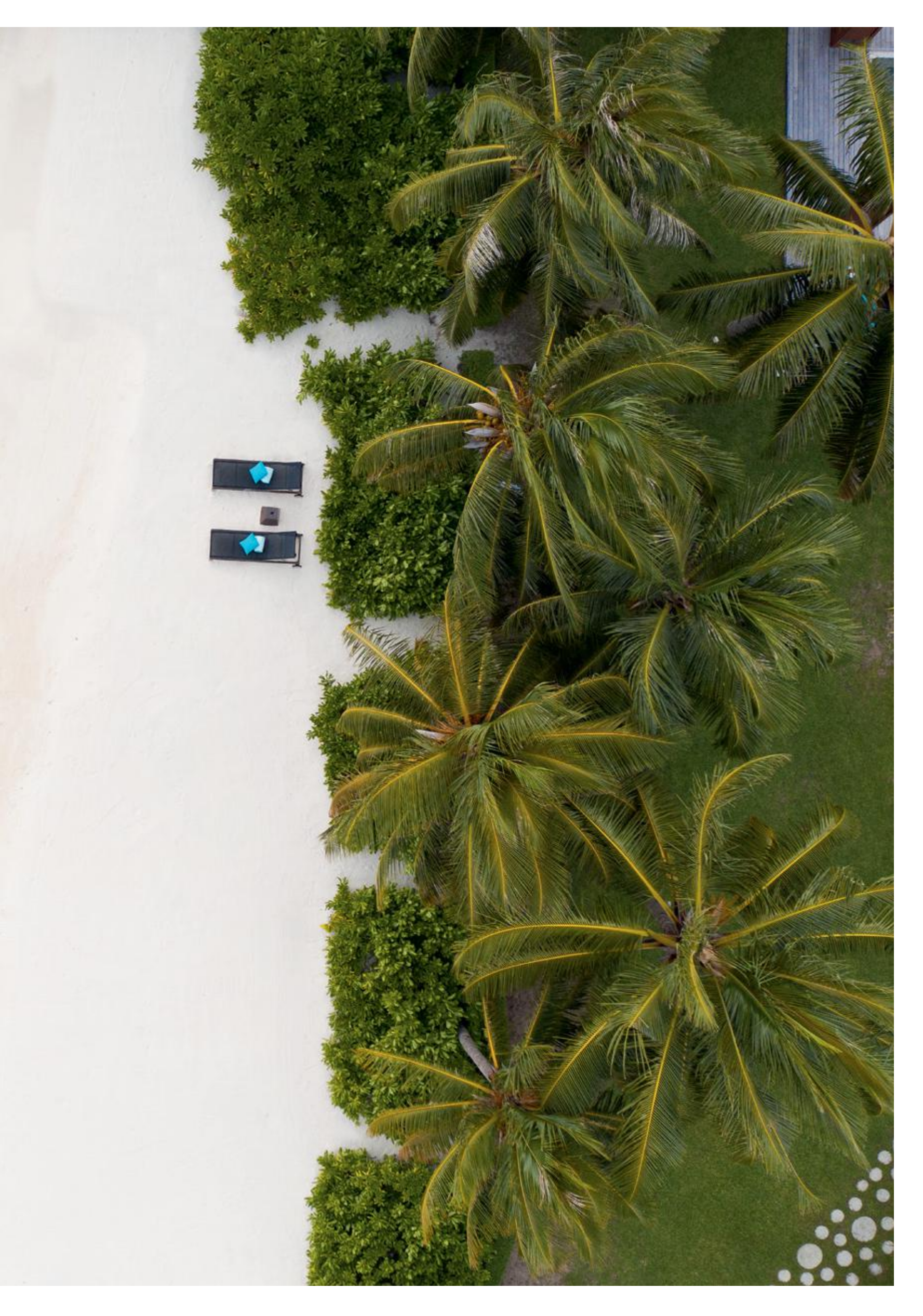


An aerial photograph of a tropical beach. The left side of the image is dominated by a vibrant turquoise sea, which transitions into a wide, pristine white sand beach on the right. The water's edge is marked by gentle waves and foam. The overall scene is serene and idyllic, capturing the natural beauty of a coastal environment.

# IN SEARCH OF SERENITY

How a long-awaited trip to Ozen Reserve  
Bolifushi in the Maldives, restored peace of  
mind and a quietude of soul for  
Emily Baxter-Priest







# THE BEST OF THE MALDIVES

Oh to escape to the Indian Ocean, with nothing but time on your hands and paradise at your feet. The Maldives has serenity, seclusion and exclusivity in abundance – where will you choose to experience it all?







## JOALI

“If you see the world through the eyes of a child, then you’ll see real joy, If you imagine the world like a child, then the world is yours”, so Joali’s saying goes, a resort committed to awakening hearts and making memories, especially with families in mind. Plumped pretty on Muravandhoo island in the Raa Atoll, Joali’s joie de vivre is apparent at every turn. The resort’s family beach villas can sleep up to five people, each with its own private beach and pool (or two!), with statuesque coconut palms ensuring privacy for those wanting to immerse in paradise en masse and under one roof. Little Robinson Crusoe’s can explore their island by chilling in Joali’s natural The Manta Ray Treehouse hideaway, playing pirates aboard a dhoni on an island excursion, exploring the underwater world as mermaids, cooking up a storm in the kitchen as aspiring chefs, learning how to play traditional Maldivian Boduberu drums or simply building sand sculptures along the pristine white beach. The memories start now.

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



# ARABIAN SOUL

Vibrant Swahili culture and idyllic Indian Ocean beaches... Sarah Freeman journeys to an equatorial paradise where Arabia meets Africa, discovering rare wildlife, a melting pot cuisine and history-steeped architecture











An aerial photograph of Monaco, showing a steep, rocky cliffside on the left with a town built on top. The cliffside is covered in greenery. In the foreground, a large marina is filled with numerous white yachts and sailboats. The water is a deep blue. In the background, the sea extends to the horizon under a clear blue sky with some light clouds. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

# 24 HOURS IN... Monaco

LIVING LIFE IN THE FAST LANE

With the Monaco Grand Prix just weeks away, find out how to make the most of your stay in the picture-perfect billionaire's playground

WORDS: Caroline Reid and Christian Sylt





# NO ADULTS ALLOWED

Our pick of the best child-friendly things to do, try and buy this month, from stargazing in AlUla to glamping it up in Abu Dhabi to embracing spring's new flower power with Burberry's latest collection



## STARS IN THEIR EYES

Guaranteed to be an experience of a lifetime, Saudi has dreamt up 2021's pinch-me moonlit moment with a night of star-gazing in the remote Gharameel area of AlUla. All you have to do, once the borders open, is grab a warm jacket, meet your expert guide at Winter Park Southern Entrance, and spend three-to-four hours learning about the stars and constellations twinkling above you. Far from big city lights, set in vast open spaces in the remote desert and surrounded by Gharameel's mystical rock formations, here

you'll witness the sky come alive with the dance of night diamonds. A perfect educational-meets-outdoors adventure for the kids, plan your trip just right (the best time to go is the days before, during and soon after each new moon) and you'll give them an experience they won't forget. Once you've all worked up an appetite post-astrology session, a traditional Arabic dinner under the stars awaits, fuelling you for your return to Winter Park and on to home.

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



## PARK LIFE

With the summer heat well on its way, make the most of the outdoor weather left and take the kids to Dubai Hills Park. One of the newest parks on the block – as well as the longest in any residential community – it's also one of the most fun. Just 15 minutes from Downtown Dubai, the bucolic space is flanked by 1,800 trees, with long, hilly stretches of grass linking up multiple breakout play areas – including one designed like a dragon which is a huge hit with little adventures – and three all-new additions: a skate park, ice rink and splash park. Let them wild and free – they'll love it.

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





### SLIDING INTO THE WEEKEND

There are few places better suited to surviving a Middle East summer with kids than a water park, and Aquaventure – the water park at Atlantis Dubai on Palm Jumeirah – is making waves for all the right reasons. Having expanded its size by a third, Aquaventure is home has just opened Trident Tower, Splasher’s Lagoon and Splasher’s Cove, meaning there are 28 new slides and attractions to let the kids run riot on. Will you be joining them?! [www.atlantis.com](http://www.atlantis.com)



### GLAMPING IT UP

BBQs, obstacle courses, skate parks and camping... You can find all this at Hodayriyat Leisure and Entertainment District on Hodayriyat island in Abu Dhabi – a newly-developed area with absolutely heaps of things to keep the kids amused. By day, they can fling themselves around an assault course, hit the BMX Track, swing like Tarzan through the High Rope Course, or amble around the Heritage Trail, all before camping out in your very own luxury tent, complete with private plunge pool, and eating from one of the food trucks whilst you watch a movie under the stars at the outdoor cinema. [www.hodayriyatland.ae](http://www.hodayriyatland.ae)



### SPRING’S NEW FLOWER POWER

Beyond the chequered raincoats and tartan prints, there’s something Burberry does really well, and that’s kidswear. For Spring/Summer 2021, the British house’s deep connection with the outdoors comes into play, with an exploration into nature and discovery. The campaign shines a light on what

the natural world looks like from a child’s point of view, with gorgeous floral prints that just ooze spring spirit. Flora and fauna also makes it way across shoes, dresses and jumpers, whilst Burberry’s signature trench coats make for the most perfect light-weight outerwear. Simple, stylish and oh-so British. [www.burberry.com](http://www.burberry.com)



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# SPEND IT

UNIQUE EXPERIENCES AND SOPHISTICATED ESSENTIALS



86

#### BE THE FIRST, BE UNIQUE

It's all about bold statements in wristwear. Above, influential American artist Shepard Fairey collaborates with Hublot for the second time, for the watchmaker's Hublot Loves Art programme. The limited edition 42mm Classic Fusion Chronograph Shepard Fairey watch features a mandala, representing harmony, the cycle of life and the unity between cultures

- 84** Hello Spring: A blanket of pastel hues introduces the prettiest season
- 86** Life in Contrast: Find beauty in striking two-tonal monochrome this spring
- 88** Five-star glamping arrives in the Indian Ocean, with Amilla Maldives' nature-infused beach bubble tents





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