

DESTINATIONS OF THE WORLD
news

Essential travel intelligence

February 2021

HIDDEN DEPTHS

Uncovering the secrets
of Zürich's silk history

A MOMENT ALONE

Waldorf Astoria unveils the
Maldives' largest private island

TREASURE HUNT

Adventures in AlUla for
culture-curious travellers

**ONCE UPON A
TIME IN MOSCOW**

Our little black book of
the best new bolt-holes

FALL IN
LOVE

WITH NAMIBIA, THAILAND, CHINA, ZANZIBAR...



EXCLUSIVE TIMEPIECES



EXQUISITE JEWELS



UNIQUE ESCAPES



LUXURY CARS

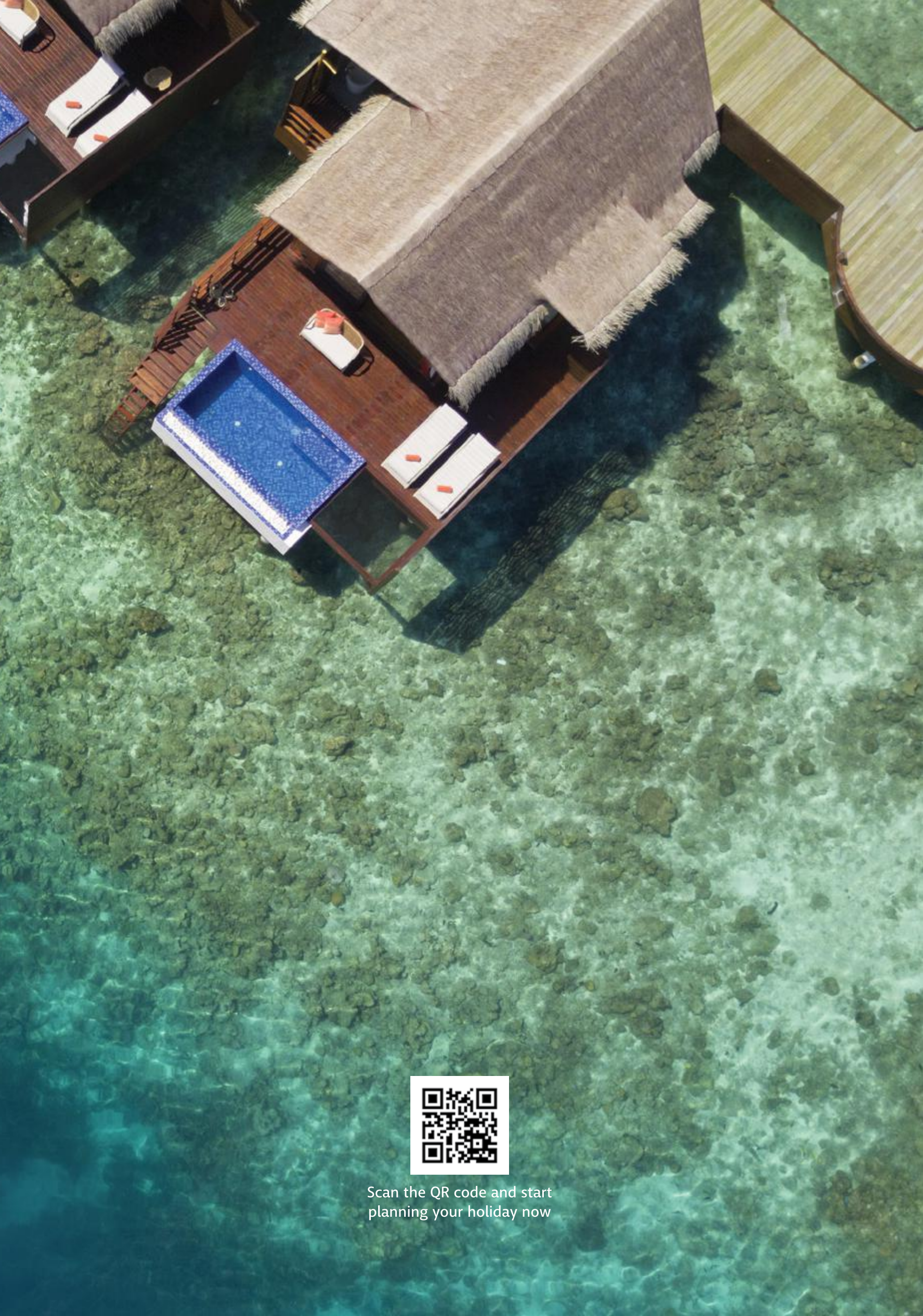
Making Moments in Time

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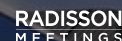




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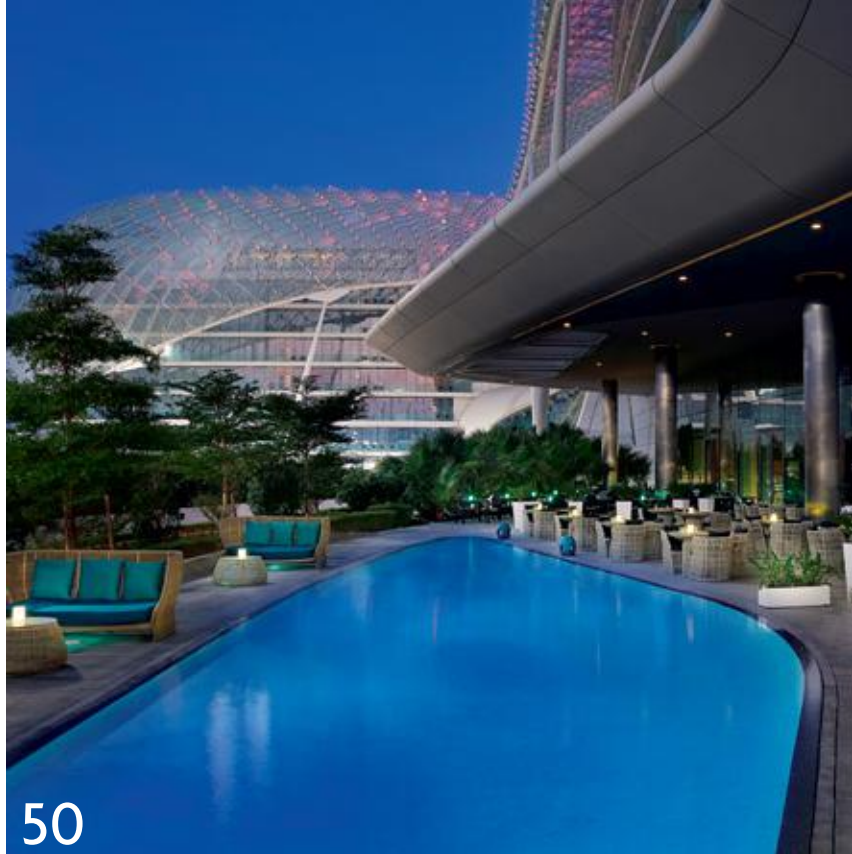
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It's time to fall in love and wear your heart on your sleeve, with timepieces laden with romantic red overtures

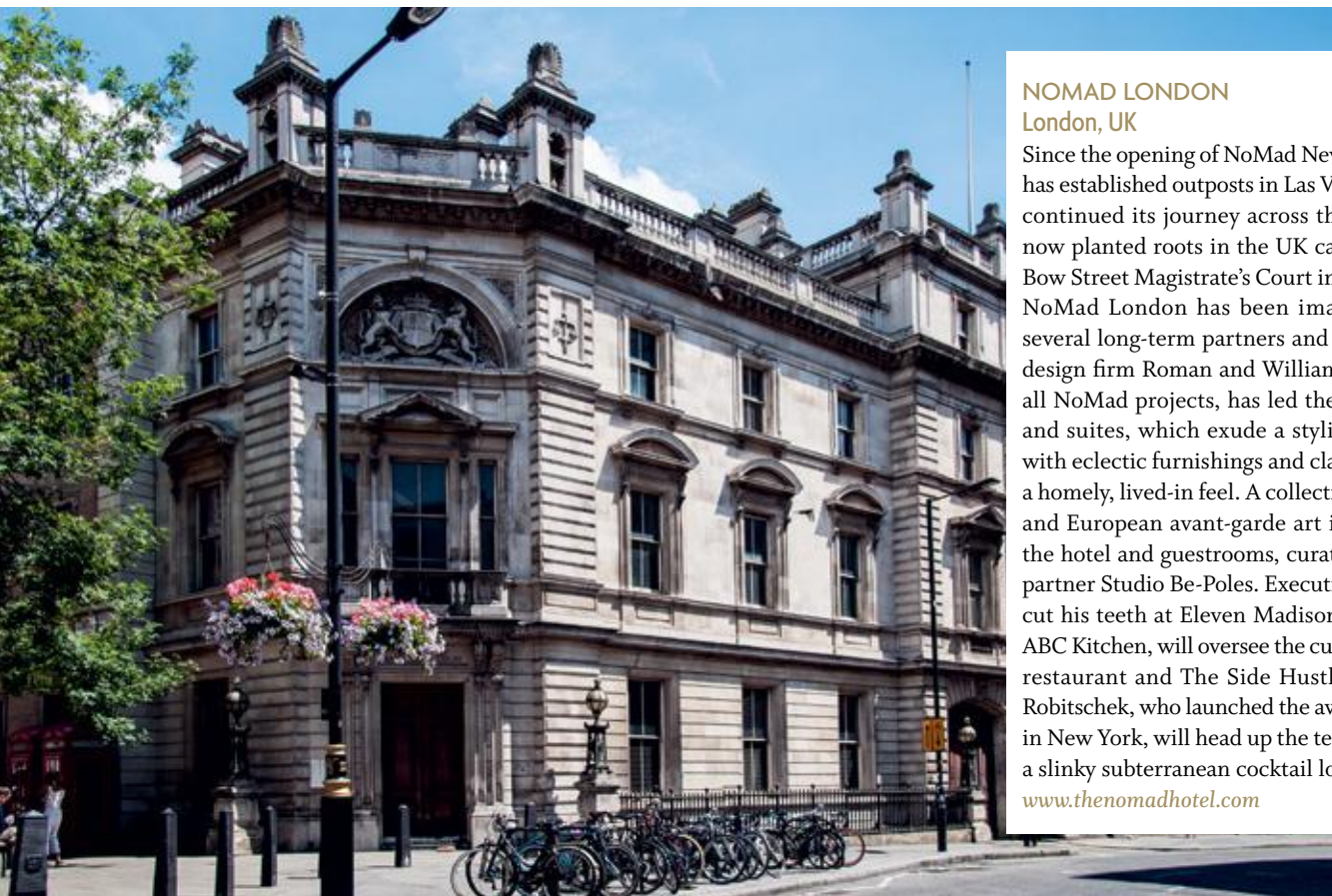
72 Beyond The Sea

Make a bid for freedom to Waldorf Astoria Maldives' brand new private island – an idyllic place for extravagant self-isolation



Debut | February

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



NOMAD LONDON London, UK

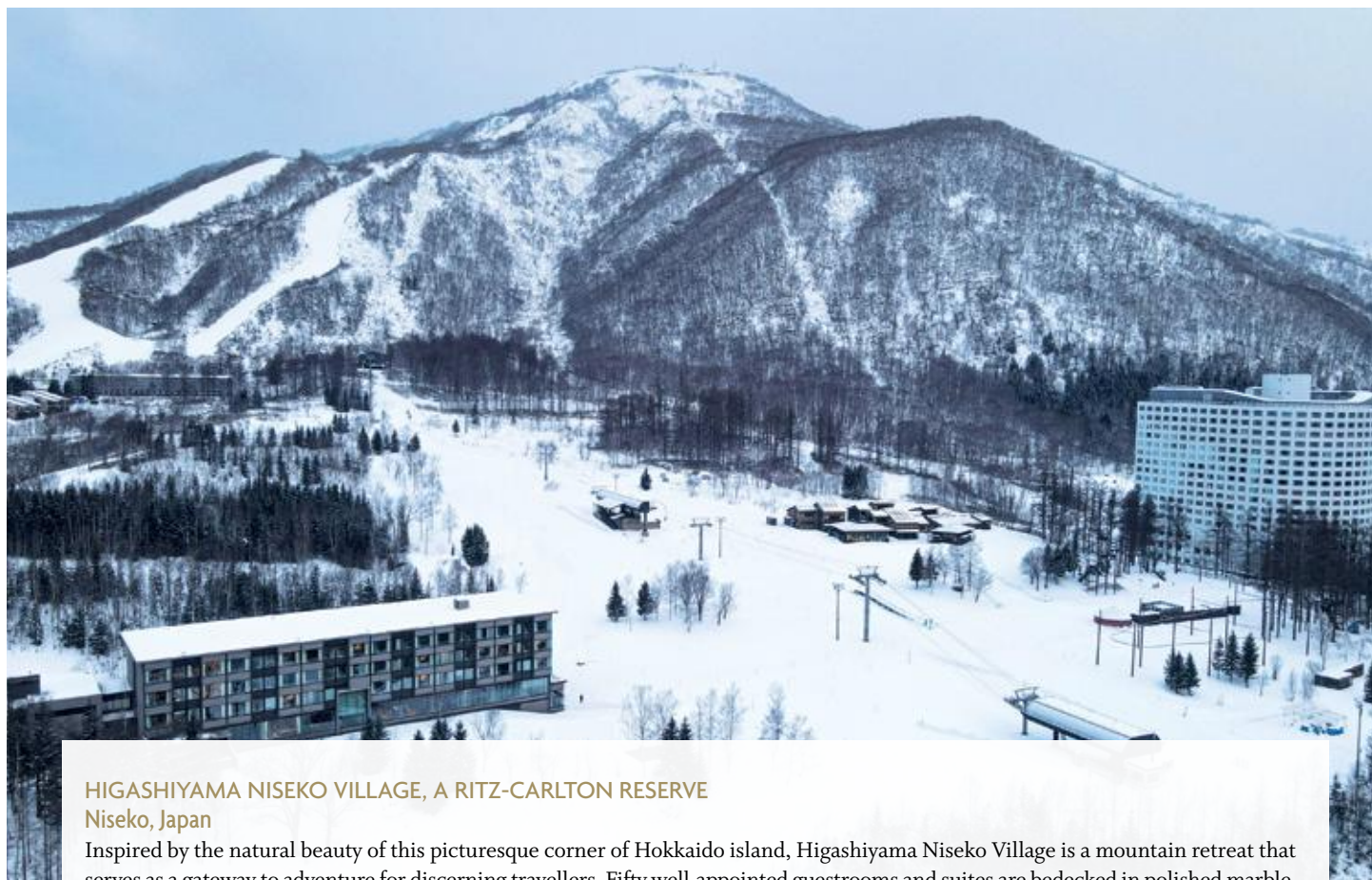
Since the opening of NoMad New York in 2012, the brand has established outposts in Las Vegas and Los Angeles and continued its journey across the Atlantic, where it has now planted roots in the UK capital. Located in the old Bow Street Magistrate's Court in historic Covent Garden, NoMad London has been imagined with the help of several long-term partners and collaborators. New York design firm Roman and Williams, which has worked on all NoMad projects, has led the design of the 92 rooms and suites, which exude a stylish, bohemian aesthetic, with eclectic furnishings and claw-foot bathtubs creating a homely, lived-in feel. A collection of post-war American and European avant-garde art is on display throughout the hotel and guestrooms, curated by long-term NoMad partner Studio Be-Poles. Executive chef Ian Coogan, who cut his teeth at Eleven Madison Park and Jean Georges' ABC Kitchen, will oversee the culinary theatrics at NoMad restaurant and The Side Hustle, while mixologist Leo Robitschek, who launched the award-winning NoMad Bar in New York, will head up the team at Common Decency, a slinky subterranean cocktail lounge.

www.thenomadhotel.com

HABITAS NAMIBIA Windhoek, Namibia

Blurring the boundaries between barefoot boutique, spiritual retreat and cultural festival, Habitas Tulum disrupted traditional notions of luxury travel when it opened in 2017. Almost four years later, the company founded by serial entrepreneur Oliver Ripley, is welcoming guests to its second remote escape: Habitas Namibia. Built around sustainability, community and shared experiences, the tented camp sits on a bluff overlooking 50,000 hectares of private wildlife reserve, where game and the indigenous San people have lived since time immemorial. In addition to safari drives, locally-inspired spa treatments, sound journey meditation and outdoor yoga in the savannah, guests staying in the 15 sustainably built safari suites or signature private villa will be invited to connect with one another during drum circles and free dance sessions or gather around the fire-pit for live local music. Visitors can also learn survival skills from San tribesmen or spend time training with an anti-poaching unit, actively contributing to local conservation efforts and supporting Habitas Rise, a brand-wide philanthropic initiative that supports local communities. www.habitasnamibia.com





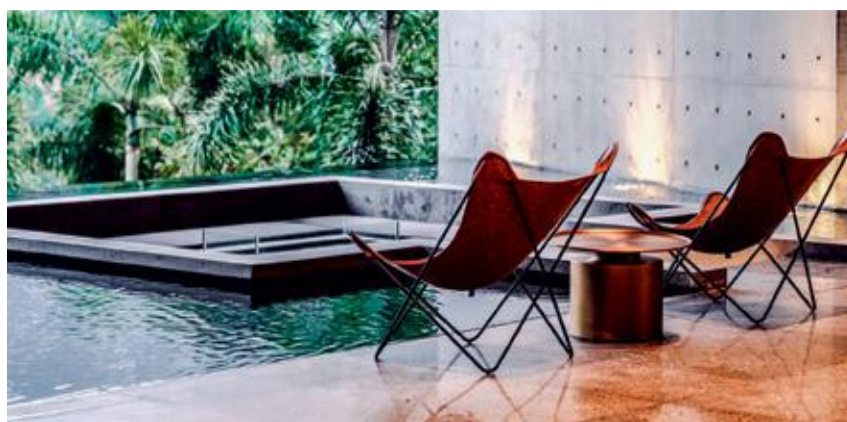
HIGASHIYAMA NISEKO VILLAGE, A RITZ-CARLTON RESERVE Niseko, Japan

Inspired by the natural beauty of this picturesque corner of Hokkaido island, Higashiyama Niseko Village is a mountain retreat that serves as a gateway to adventure for discerning travellers. Fifty well-appointed guestrooms and suites are bedecked in polished marble, fragrant cedarwood and flame finished granite, all looking out across the dramatic landscape towards the mighty peak of Mount Yotei, a 1,898-metre high stratovolcano that's home to some of the best skiing in Japan. Local traditions and culture inform every aspect of the experience, from the culinary philosophy of 'shun' celebrating seasonal produce at Yukibana and Sushi Nagi restaurants, to the warm, heartfelt hospitality and genuine care of 'omotenashi' practiced by personal hosts. Higashiyama Reservists act as creative curators, helping guests plan excursions and experiences or gain exclusive access to other venues in Niseko Village. At Spa Chasi La Sothys, a traditional Japanese onsen fed by underground hot springs provides the perfect nourishment for body and soul after a day exploring some of 2,100-acres of skiing in the winter or miles of hiking and cycling trails in the summer. www.marriott.com

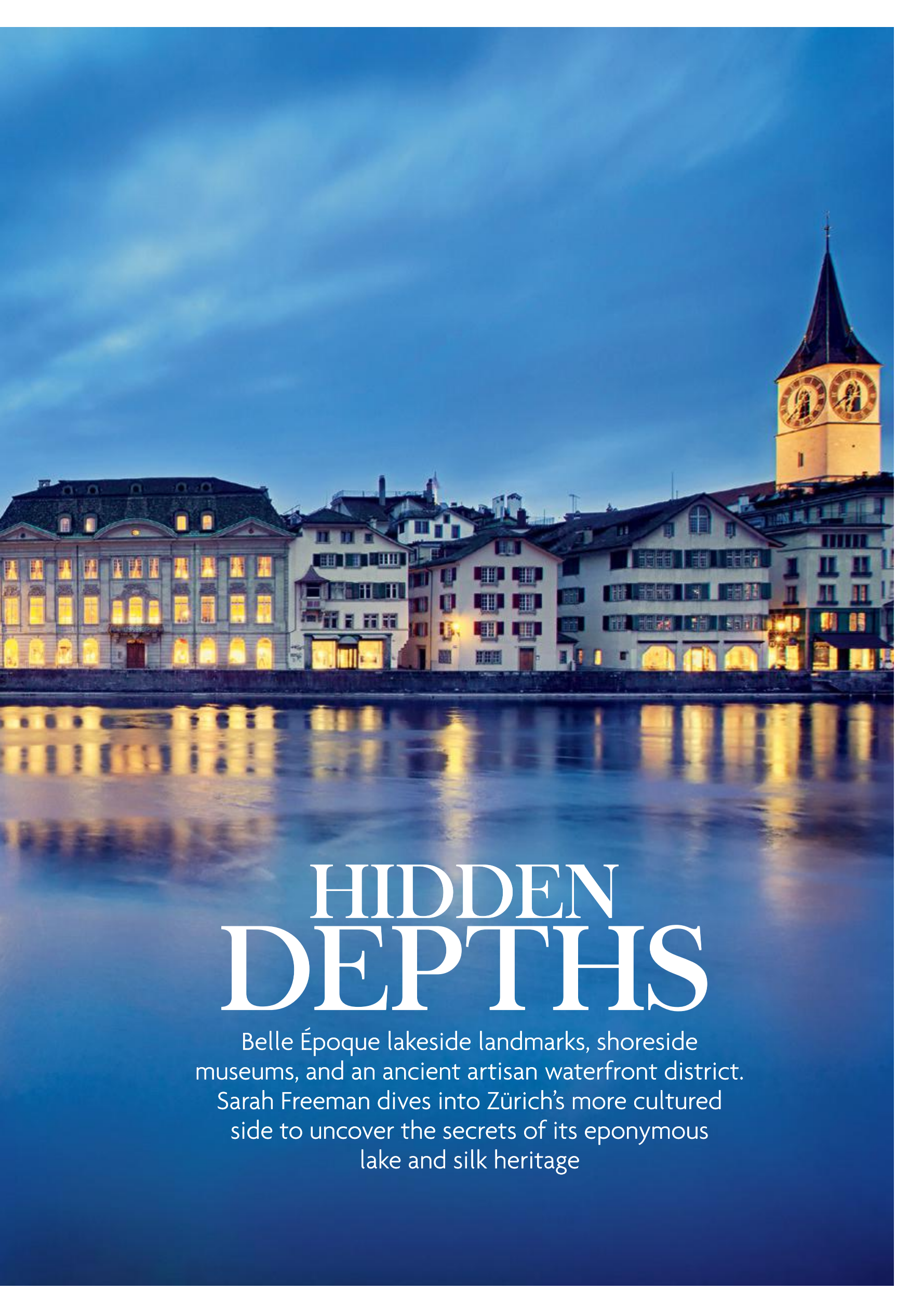


LUX* CHONGZOU Chongzhou, China

Southern China's semi-autonomous Guangxi region is a dramatic landscape of winding rivers, verdant fields and forest-covered peaks that stirs the heart of the avid explorer. Set on the banks of the Mingshi river 10 minutes from the Vietnamese border, LUX* Chongzhou provides the perfect base from which to explore this mesmerising land. The boutique resort is presented in a medley of materials chosen to weather the environment, with wood, stone and copper elements dominating the modern, minimal exterior. Inside the 56 suites and villas, earthy tones complement rust and grey hues, while the outdoor spaces with private terraces and plunge pools afford sweeping views of the towering limestone karsts that dominate the horizon. This is a place where time slows down and guests can immerse themselves in a natural world that revolves around the river, from early morning riverside yoga and waterfront nature walks, to rooftop river views and cocktails at Skyver lounge. Life is equally unhurried in Slow Flow, the resort's Chinese, South Asia and Western restaurant, and virtually grinds to a halt at LUX* Me Spa. If LUX Chongzhou is an ode to the river, the nearby Detian Falls is its crashing crescendo; a collection of thundering waterfalls that lie on the border between China and Vietnam. www.luxresorts.com







HIDDEN DEPTHS

Belle Époque lakeside landmarks, shoreside museums, and an ancient artisan waterfront district. Sarah Freeman dives into Zürich's more cultured side to uncover the secrets of its eponymous lake and silk heritage

RACE YOU THERE

W Abu Dhabi - Yas Island gives guests the quintessential 'life in the fast lane' experience. From amped-up staycation packages to revved-up restaurant offers, it's time to make tracks

SETTING THE PACE

No hotel offers a more exhilarating hotel experience than W Abu Dhabi - Yas Island, with its Grand Prix track-side positioning and super-charged guest experiences. With its criss-cross structure cutting a dynamic silhouette along the capital's skyline, the hotel's prime island location serves up a luxury playground for those seeking the finer things in life, from easy access to Abu Dhabi's cultural and lifestyle attractions, to the suped-up on-site spa, restaurant and night-life revelries. Do as little or as much as you want... But be assured that you've secured yourself a front row seat to the glitz and glamour of this electric city, be it on or off the track.



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SPEND IT

UNIQUE EXPERIENCES AND SOPHISTICATED ESSENTIALS



70

A GOLDEN YEAR

Celebrating Chinese New Year this month, Arnold & Son has released a Limited Edition Perpetual Moon 'Year of the Ox' 42mm watch, featuring powerful motifs in the bold buffalo and immense moon. In daylight, the mother-of-pearl moon appears almost white, but by night, the moon and constellation light up creating a mystical, other-worldly scene. With only eight pieces available, time is ticking.

- 68** A poetic ode to romance plays out in our jewellery boxes, with pieces in seductive pink and arresting reds
- 70** In our mind, it's always time to fall in love – but this month more so than ever with these beautiful watches
- 72** The Maldives' biggest private island has just opened at Waldorf Astoria and it's yours for the taking

LOVE DUET

Jewellery plays out like poetry this month, a love sonnet in seductive pinks and arresting reds

A HIGHER LOVE

Harry Winston's ode to Valentine's Day is music to our ears, featuring this One Double Halo Engagement Ring, with a round brilliant stone embraced by two rows of micropavé diamonds



1



2



3



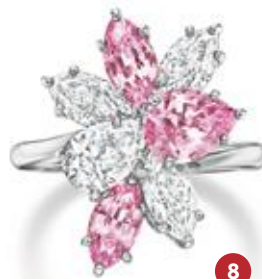
4



5



7



8



11



10



12



9



- 1. Joséphine Aigrette Impériale ring, Chaumet
- 2. Golden Oasis sunbow earrings, Piaget
- 3. Rose Bonbon Pink Sapphire earrings, Dior
- 4. Quatre Red Edition ring, Boucheron
- 5. Cocktail ring, Rubeus Milano
- 6. Rosa necklace, Vhernier
- 7. Happy Hearts bracelet, Chopard
- 8. Winston Cluster ring, Harry Winston
- 9. Muse earrings, House of Garrard
- 10. Earrings, Bina Goenka x Gemfields
- 11. Colours of Love ring, Fabergé
- 12. Regal Cascade necklace, House of Garrard

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year, this limited edition
burgundy-red Reverso
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www.jaeger-lecoultre.com



TIME TO FALL IN LOVE

How to wear your heart on your sleeve this
Valentine's Day, fuelled by romantic red overtures



Limited edition Reine de Naples 'Cœur', with 18ct rose gold oval case, set with 128 diamonds, red alligator strap with 28 diamonds
www.breguet.com



Elite Moonphase 'Julietta' 36mm watch, red dial with solar pattern, Romeo & Juliet moonphase and bezel set with brilliant-cut diamonds
www.zenith.com



Rose gold Premier Collection 'Year of the Ox' watch, with vivid red mother-of-pearl dial, 36mm case set with 57 brilliant-cut diamonds, high-shine alligator leather strap with a buckle set with 17 brilliant-cut diamonds
www.harrywinston.com

Mini Virtus Duo with IP champagne 28mm round case, red enameled dial embossed with V Virtus Versace logo, with interchangeable straps
www.versace.com

Limited edition Villeret Women Date 33.2mm timepiece, with white mother-of-pearl dial and 18ct red gold case circled with diamonds
www.blancpain.com



Dior Grand Soir 33mm watch in white gold, with baguette-cut rubies and spinels, with a dial engraved with Tahiti mother-of-pearl set with diamonds
www.dior.com



Big Pilot's Watch Perpetual Calendar Edition, with a black ceramic 46.5mm case, 18ct gold case back and Bordeaux-red dial
www.iwc.com



Tiffany Metro 2-Hand 28mm watch, in 18ct rose gold, burgundy lacquered dial, set with eight brilliant and four baguette diamonds
www.tiffany.com



Limited edition Wings of Light 'Rainbow Lights' watch, in 18ct white gold, 38mm case and pave diamond-set dial
www.piaget.com

Arceau Harnais Français remix with white gold case set with 82 diamonds, with an engraved and hand-painted porcelain dial
www.hermes.com



40mm Tonda 1950 Tourbillon watch, 40mm 18ct rose gold case, featuring 40 sapphires, dial set with 572 diamonds and 32 sapphires
www.parmigiani.com



Heart-shaped L'Heure du Diamant watch in 18ct rose gold, case set with diamonds, with light pink mother-of-pearl dial and burgundy leather strap
www.chopard.com

SPEND IT OUT OF THIS WORLD

BEYOND THE SEA

Make a bid for freedom and call this new private island your home, a place we promise self-isolation will feel anything but a chore

WHEN FREEDOM FEELS SO FRAGILE these days, there's even more beauty to be found in escaping somewhere safe from external intrusions, a place where paradise brings privacy and a tropical islet invites freedom. And few places feel as out of the way or out of this world as the Maldives... Fans of this Indian Ocean enclave will already have acquainted themselves with the Waldorf Astoria Maldives' fondness for fuss-free elegance and quiet opulence, but now, to take luxury isolation to the next level, the property has opened Ithaafushi - The Private Island. At 32,000 sqm, it is the largest private island in the archipelago and sets the benchmark for seclusion, exclusivity and personalised service. So, what awaits you on your not-so-little plot of five-star sand? A speedboat from the main island

will shuttle you over to your sprawling estate, where you can lay claim to a bed in one of two stunning villas and a four-bedroom residence, all sweeping enough to sleep 24 guests, designed with family or friends in mind. Across the island you'll have three swimming pools, Jacuzzis, indoor and outdoor rain showers, a shared 'living room' – Haali – and 360-beach access at your disposal, as well as lush gardens and coconut palm canopies. Choose to spend your days cocooned in seclusion fuelled by your own culinary team, swimming, dipping and sipping your way through myriad island experiences, from snorkelling or sailing to sunset yoga and castaway sandbank dinners. Freedom has never tasted this good. www.waldorfastoria.com

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