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CONTENTS

November 2021

IN THE NEWS

26 Europe

Fantasy dining on the British Pullman; COMO to unveil a new home in Burgundy; Take a field trip with Black Tomato

28 Middle East & Africa

Explore Botswana's open-air museum; Dubai's newest private members club; Get your glamp on at Banan Beach

30 Asia & Oceania

Cruise the seas by superyacht; Family-friendly fun in Mauritius; W Hotels x Luxe City Guides

32 Americas

BVI's new billionaire's playground; The Waldorf Astoria New York turns 90; Bvlgari's ultra-luxe resort in the Santa

34 Debut

Hot hotels, chic boutiques and exclusive new resorts

36 Gourmet News

Where to eat in the UAE; From(age) Paris, with love; Tokyo's sweet new story; Stars in our eyes

38 Restaurant Review

How Alba Terrace at The Abu Dhabi EDITION magics you to the Med

40 Eat, Play, Love

Dine out in style at Al Habtoor City – the culinary triptych winning the hearts of Dubai

DESTINATIONS

52

44 Uncovering the Cape

Embrace the open road and gloriously empty byways to discover a few of South Africa's most beautiful and unhurried corners

52 Maltese Magic

Superyachts, Michelin stars and world-class spas abound with Malta's luxury makeover

52 Escapes

Nature calls in Koh Samui, culture blooms in Marrakech and the Maldives dials up the charm



HOTELS

74 Haute Stays

Birth of an icon as St. Regis Downtown debuts in Dubai

82 Suite Dreams

Italian chic with Capri class at Capri Palace Jumeriah

84 Under Starter's Orders

Get ready for a revved-up Formula 1 stay at W Abu Dhabi – Yas Island

92 Suite Dreams

Why Rixos Premium Dubai has become something of an urban legend

94 Staycations

Outdoor adventures in Sharm El Sheikh and some poolside fun with polo

98 A Stay From A to Z

A luxury triangle of hotels, taking you from city, to desert to sea

106 No Adults Allowed

The luxury travel intel all the cool kids are talking about

SPEND IT

110 Jewels

Rebel heart: accessories that add just the right hint of anarchy

112 Watches

A sea of silver and blues to mirror the magnetism of the Arabian Gulf

114 Watches

Breguet's new timepiece celebrates the equation of time

116 Show & Tell

It's show and tell time, as Broadway beckons and NYC dials up the charm







A NEW GENERATION OF LUXURY



HOT EVENTS, NEW HOTELS AND GLOBAL JET-SETTERS



MOSKITO COAST

Richard Branson has transformed his private island into a personal playground on Moskito Island in the British Virgin Islands. The latest addition to his Virgin Limited Edition portfolio, Moskito Island invites just the lucky few to stay in its three privatelyowned estates, redefining a tropical castaway adventure.

- **26** NEWS Luxe travel updates from around the world
- **34 DEBUT** Our pick of the best new hotels
- **26** GOURMET Culinary updates, from near and far
- **36** CULINARY REVIEW Alba Terrace brings the laid-back vibes and flavours of the Med to Abu Dhabi
- **40** GOURMET Eat, play, love at Al Habtoor City, with five of its standout restaurants

EXPLORE BOTSWANA'S OPEN-AIR ART MUSEUM WITH DESERT & DELTA

TUCKED AWAY IN THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF BOTSWANA, the Tsodilo Hills are a geological marvel: a collection of rocky outcrops that rise up from the sand dunes of the Kalahari Desert to form the highest point in Botswana. Designated a UNESCO World Heritage site in 2001, Tsodilo is home to one of the largest collections of ancient rock art in Africa, a sprawling collection of more than 4,500 paintings in 400 different sites, earning it the moniker 'the Louvre of the desert'.

One hour away is Nxamaseri Island Lodge, a private hideaway on its own island in the Nxamaseri Channel, whose waters flow out to join the Kavango River and the Okavango Delta beyond. The lodge, one of the oldest in Botswana, is the latest addition to Desert & Delta Safaris' portfolio, which includes eight other lodges and camps across northern Botswana.

The eight private suites are shaded by huge Jackalberry trees and wild date palms, each with its own teak deck overlooking the waters of the channel and its innumerable islands. Guests will spend their days exploring the waterways by mokoro - the dug-out canoe traditionally used to navigate Botswana's winding waterways and floodplains - or scanning the canopy and swamps for bird and wildlife on guided walks to nearby islands. The region is one of the best places for fishing in Botswana, and keen



anglers can attempt to catch (and release) the indigenous tiger fish, whose teeth will give you nightmares. But the biggest draw for active visitors is the Tsodilo Hills, an open-air art museum that has supported human life for more than 100,000 years, where ancient rock art can be found in caves and hillsides and some of best views in Africa can be found by climbing the challenging peaks.

Delta & Desert Safaris' sister company, Safari Air, enables guests to combine a stay at Nxamaseri Island Lodge with other properties within the portfolio. All are set in prime locations in game reserves and national parks, giving guests a chance to sample the diverse landscapes and wildlife of this mesmerising destination.

www.desertdelta.com

GET YOUR GLAMP ON AT BANAN BEACH





SET TO THE BACKDROP OF THE YANIS AND JAIS MOUNTAINS

and surrounded by picturesque beaches and the warm waters of the Arabian Gulf, Al Marjan Island in Ras Al Khaimah has quickly become a hot spot for international visitors and UAE staycationers alike.

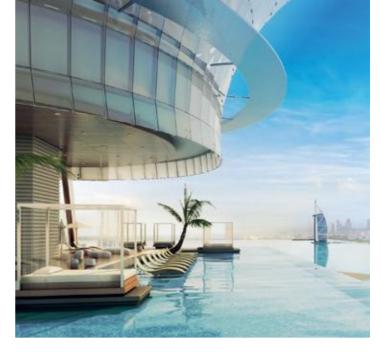
This year, visitors will have another reason to visit with the opening of Banan Beach, a beachfront glamping resort with wellness and sustainability at its core.

A collection of sustainably built chalets and colourful tepee-style tents positioned around a central fire pit will provide a laid-back destination

for family-friendly overnight stays, while those visiting for the day can soak up the sunshine on poolside and beachfront loungers, cook up an al fresco feast at private BBQ areas or join yoga and wellness sessions

As part of Ras Al Khaimah's Sustainable Tourism Destination Strategy, all the furniture, fixtures, door, windows and decorations will be handmade using recycled, locally-sourced and biodegradable materials, while the resort's restaurants will use wood and charcoal-fired ovens and grills. www.bananbeach.com

LUXURY HOTEL BRAND SOFITEL IS OPENING YOU A NEW RESORT ON HEAR? THE COAST OF RAS AL KHAIMAH, WITH 300 ROOMS, SUITES AND VILLAS OVERLOOKING THE WATERS OF THE ARABIAN GULF AND THE **NEIGHBOURING 18-HOLE GOLF COURSE. DUE** TO OPEN IN 2023, THE **RESORT WILL BE HOME** TO SIX RESTAURANTS AND FORM A CENTRAL FEATURE OF THE AL **HAMRA INTEGRATED** TOURISM DESTINATION. WHICH IS ALSO **HOME TO A MARINA** AND YACHT CLUB, AN EXHIBITION AND **CONFERENCE CENTRE** AND SHOPPING MALL.



SKY HIGH IN DUBAI AT AURA SKYPOOL **LOUNGE**

SOARING ABOVE PALM JUMEIRAH, AURA SKYPOOL **LOUNGE** will add two superlatives to Dubai's ever-growing collection when it opens this month, introducing the world's first and highest 360-degree infinity pool. Situated on the 50th floor of Nakheel's 200-metre tall Palm Tower, the venue is set to become a must on any Dubai itinerary.

The Pool Deck is home to the spectacular infinity pool and its custom-made sunbeds, surrounded by sweeping views of Palm Jumeirah and Dubai's iconic landmarks; the perfect spot to watch the sun sink into the Arabian Gulf with a sundowner in hand.

The Lounge & Bar is an elegant indoor space created by Dubaibased Sunset Hospitality, where natural materials and bright, breezy fabrics complement earthy concrete and stone surfaces accented with natural greenery. Here, head chef Craig Best serves up a collection of Pan-Asian dishes, including sticky confit duck salad, glazed miso salmon and loaded grilled cauliflower, and decadent desserts including marinated pineapple sundaes, as well as lighter dishes to be enjoyed poolside.

Open from mid-November, tickets for Aura Skypool Lounge start from AED 170 (US \$46) per person for a morning session, up to AED 600 (\$164) for full-day access to the VIP Island: yours to enjoy from 10am to sunset. www.auraskypool.com

ELEVATE YOUR SHOPPING EXPERIENCE DUBAI'S NEWEST PRIVATE MEMBERS CLUB

DUBAI'S SHOPPING HOTSPOT MALL OF THE EMIRATES has ramped up its offering with the launch of The 9, a super-suave private members club that brings together all your retail, dining and pampering needs under one stylish roof. Home to Sergio Nesci tailoring, a personal stylist and a private shopping team, members at The 9 will have their sartorial needs taken care of while they relax away from the hubbub of the mall or visit The Barber for a trim.

Central to The 9 is fine dining Mediterranean restaurant Garth, where Moscow chef Sergei Andreychenko presents a menu of seasonal dishes from Italy, Greece and the south of France, accompanied by choice beverages and an eclectic soundtrack.

The 9 also has a meeting room and its own private guest suite for overnight stays, as well as a cigar lounge and library. But it's the soft touches that set this club apart: there's a gift-wrapping and premium repair service, complimentary valet parking for members, airport check-in and a programme of events that will include talks and panel discussions, tastings and workshops, as well as exclusive events hosted by some of the luxury retailers in Mall of the Emirates. www.malloftheemirates.com



Debut November

HOT HOTELS, CHIC BOUTIQUES AND EXCLUSIVE NEW RESORTS

HERE'S OUR PICK OF THE WORLD'S MOST LUXURIOUS NEW LAUNCHES

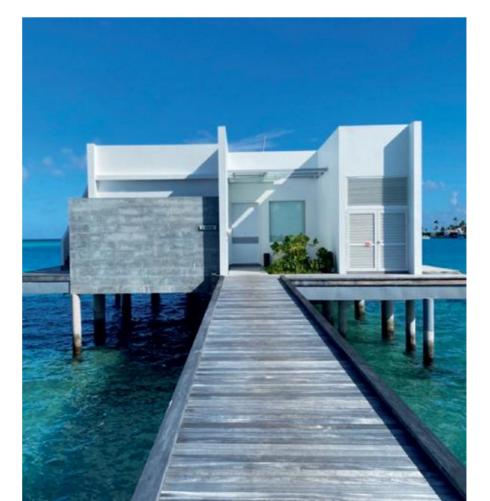


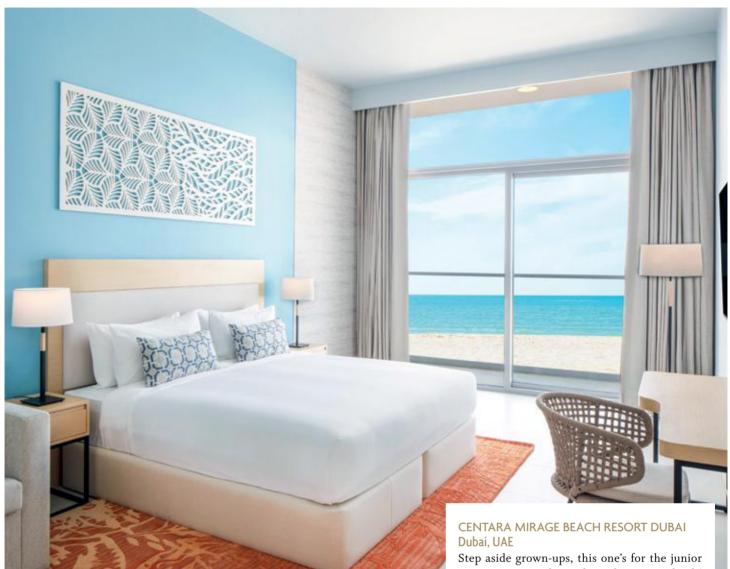
CHEVAL BLANC PARIS Paris, France

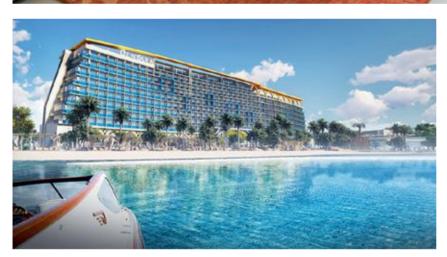
LVMH is no stranger to Paris. The spirit of the city, like the waters of the Seine, course through its veins, infusing its endeavours with French savoir-faire and Parisian glamour. The same must be said of Cheval Blanc Paris, the brand's new flagship hotel housed in a palatial, Haussmann-era building next to the Louvre. Originally built by architect Henri Sauvage in the 1860s, the building was the home of La Samaritaine department store until 2005. Since then, the building has been acquired by LVMH and restored to its former glory: a task that fell to French architect Edouard Francois and a team of designers, artists and craftsmen. The hotel's interiors, which are listed on the French Historic Monuments register, have been reimagined by New York-based architect Peter Marino – a long-term LVMH collaborator who has worked on flagship Chanel stores in Seoul and Tokyo, and Louis Vuitton flagships in LA and London - to reflect the style of a Parisian residence. As well as 26 rooms and 46 suites, each bathed in neutral, earthy tones, Cheval Blanc Paris has a Dior Spa and underground swimming pool, a restaurant with chef Arnaud Donckele (of three Michelin-starred La Vague d'Or at Cheval Blanc St-Tropez) at the helm, and an imaginative children's club, La Carrousel. www.chevalblanc.com

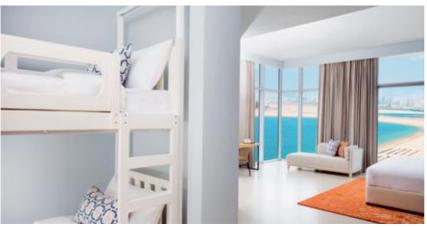
JUMEIRAH MALDIVES North Malé Atoll, Maldives

Jumeirah makes its triumphant return to the Maldives this month with the opening of Jumeirah Maldives, an ultra-exclusive collection of 67 beach and overwater villas in the North Malé Atoll. Accessible by short seaplane transfer or speedboat ride from Malé, the all-villa resort presents a refreshingly different design style from many Maldives escapes, the traditional thatch-roofed huts replaced by striking, modern villas created by Singapore-based architectural firm Miaja Design Group. The two-storey hideaways range from one to three bedrooms and start from 171 sqm, making them some of the largest in the archipelago. Each has its own private infinity pool, outdoor dining area, rooftop terrace with ocean views, and the services of a dedicated butler. Previously flagged as LUX* North Male Atoll, Jumeirah has made a few changes to the resort since taking over, such as the addition of a signature Talise Spa and two signature Jumeirah Group restaurants: Shimmers and Kayto, which serve up Mediterranean and Nikkei cuisine respectively. Unique experiences await, from planting coconut trees to underwater photography tours and the chance to explore the crystal waters of the Indian Ocean in a private submarine. www.jumeirah.com









jet-setters. Spread out along the Deira Islands' waterfront, Centara Mirage Beach Resort Dubai is a family-focused playground where kids and adults alike are invited to immerse themselves in a world of aquatic entertainment and culinary delights. Life here is based around the beach and myriad outdoor activities connected by winding wooden walkways, from floating on the lazy river and splashing around in the water play area, to adrenalin-fuelled waterslides, a rope climbing course and cliff-jumping platforms. Three agespecific kids clubs promise an endless schedule of activities for children, and Centara's signature Spa Cenvaree has its own dedicated candy-themed kids spa, offering treatments designed specifically for younger guests. Six Two-bedroom Suites afford the most space for families to spread out, but all of the 607 rooms and suites are designed with families in mind. Mirage rooms come with bunk beds and grant guests access to the Mirage Family Club Lounge – a colourful place for the whole family to relax and play - and all room categories have their own balcony and views of the Arabian Gulf or the Dubai skyline. With a choice of nine restaurants and lounges, there's plenty to keep the whole family happy: Argentine grill Uno Mas, authentic Asian at Suan Bua and fresh seafood and prime cuts at Sands beach club; or lighter bites and Waves Pool Bar and Zing, to name a few. Centara Mirage Beach Resort Dubai marks the Thailand-based brand's first venture in the UAE, a fitting addition to its portfolio of family friendly hotels in Southeast Asia and beyond. www.centarahotelsresorts.com





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DESTINATIONS

THE WORLD'S MOST DESIRABLE LOCATIONS

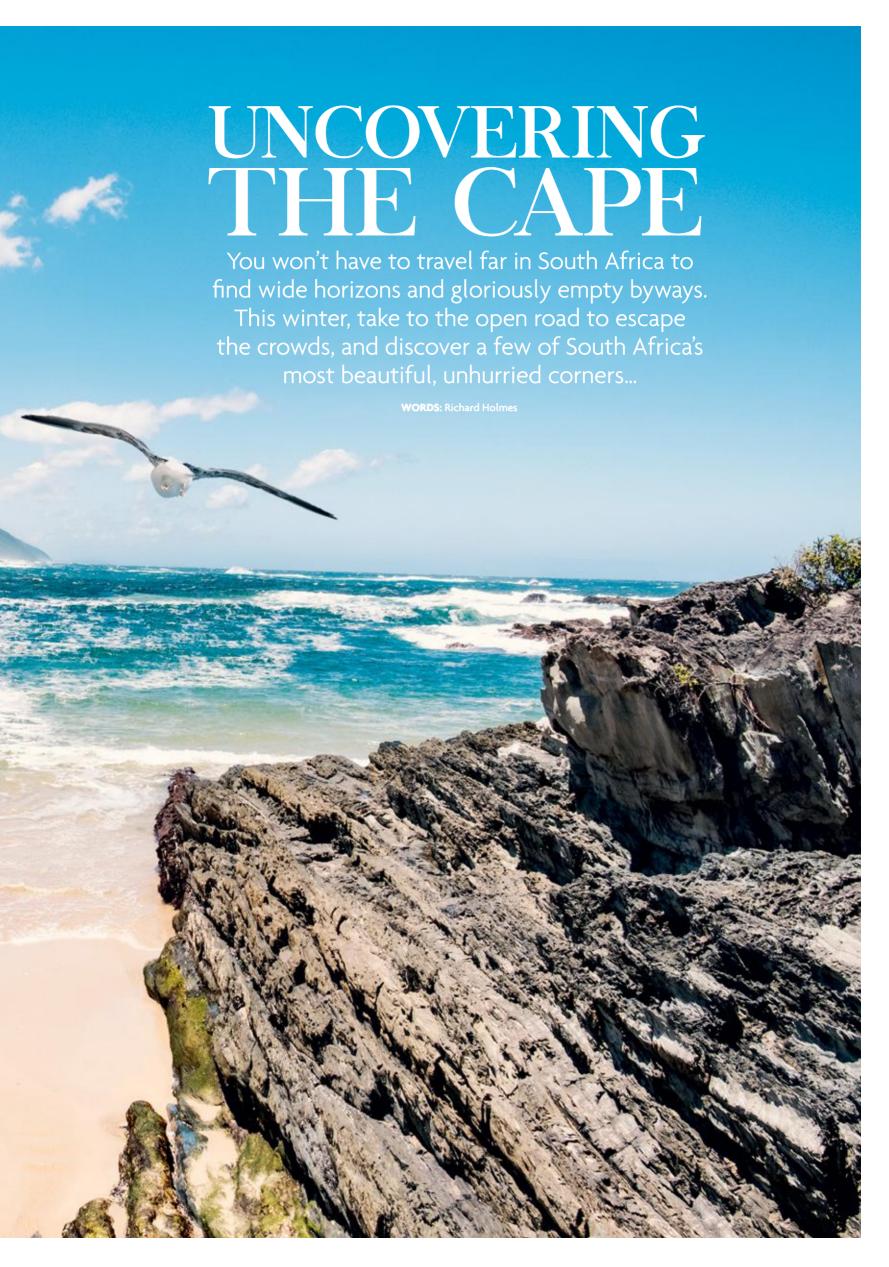


DESTINATION KNOWN

Dive deep into the waters of history with a visit to Malta, a beautiful mash-up of North Africa, Southern Italy and colonial England influences with Mediterranean vibes. Or get behind the wheel, and wind your way along South Africa's stunning coastline

- 44 Discover some of South Africa's most beautiful and unhurried corners via the open road
- Maltese magic: Superyachts, Michelin stars and world-class spas abound following Malta's luxury makeover
- **62** Escapes: Nature calls in Koh Samui, romance blooms in Marrakech and the Maldives dials up the charm













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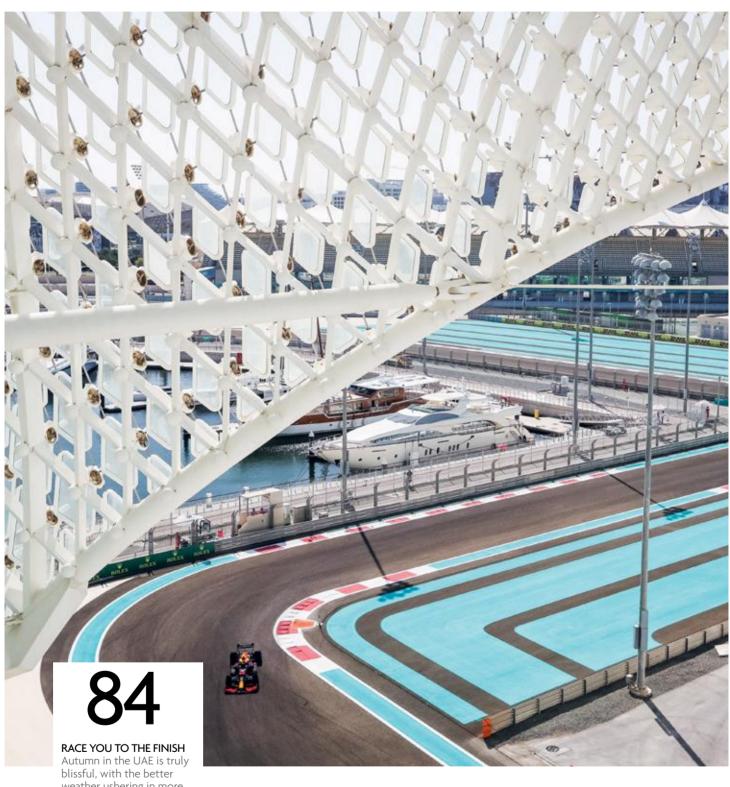
A COMMITMENT RESTRENGTHENED







THE MOST BEAUTIFUL PLACES TO STAY IN



weather ushering in more staycations, beach days, outdoor adventures and the return of events, such as the high-octane Formula 1 Etihad Airways Abu Dhabi Grand Prix 2021. Stay at W Abu Dhabi - Yas Island for a revved up 24 hours of tearing up the track in style

74 Birth of an icon as The St. Regis Downtown debuts in Dubai

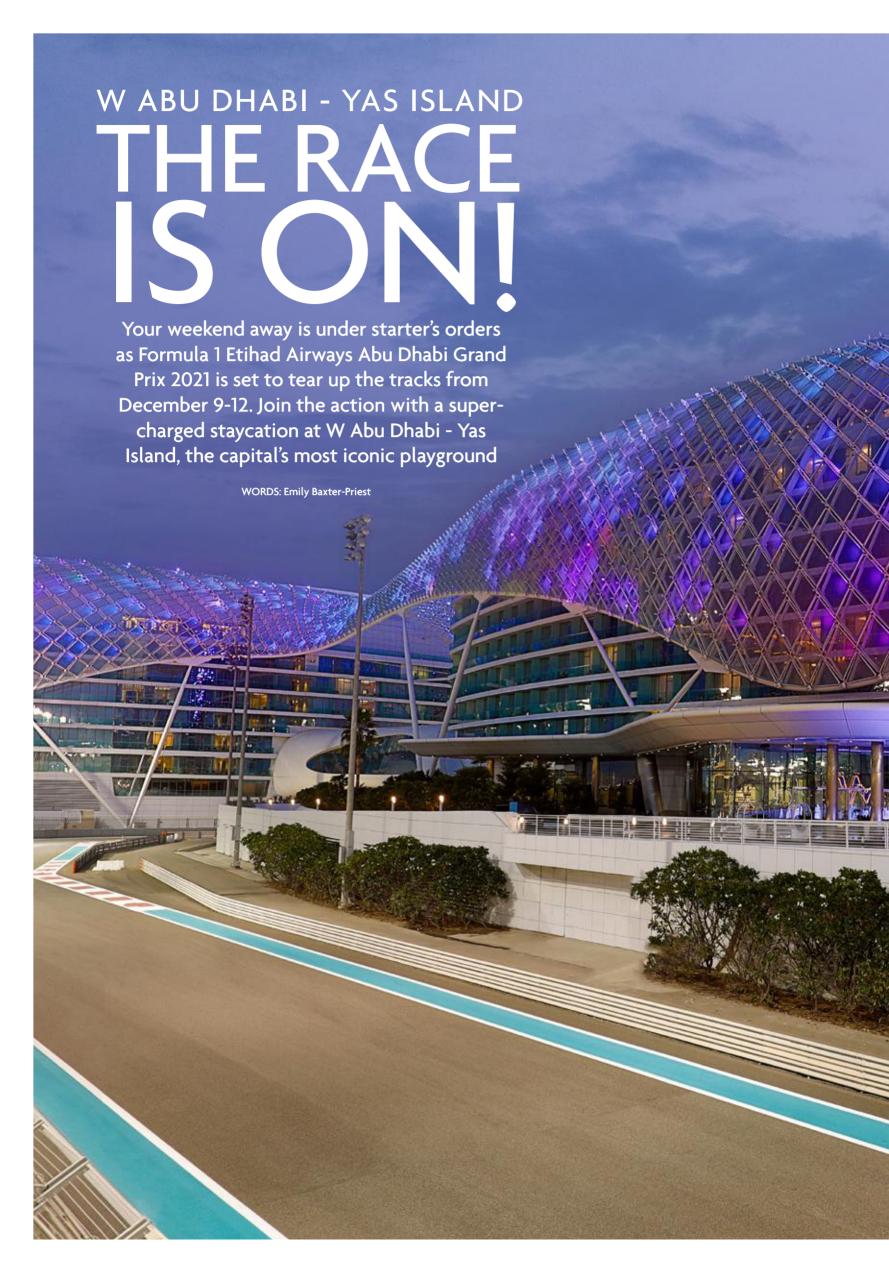
82 Suite Dreams: Italian elegance at Capri Palace Jumeirah

84 Live life in the fast lane at W Abu Dhabi - Yas Island

92 Suite Dreams: Why Rixos Premium Dubai is an urban legend

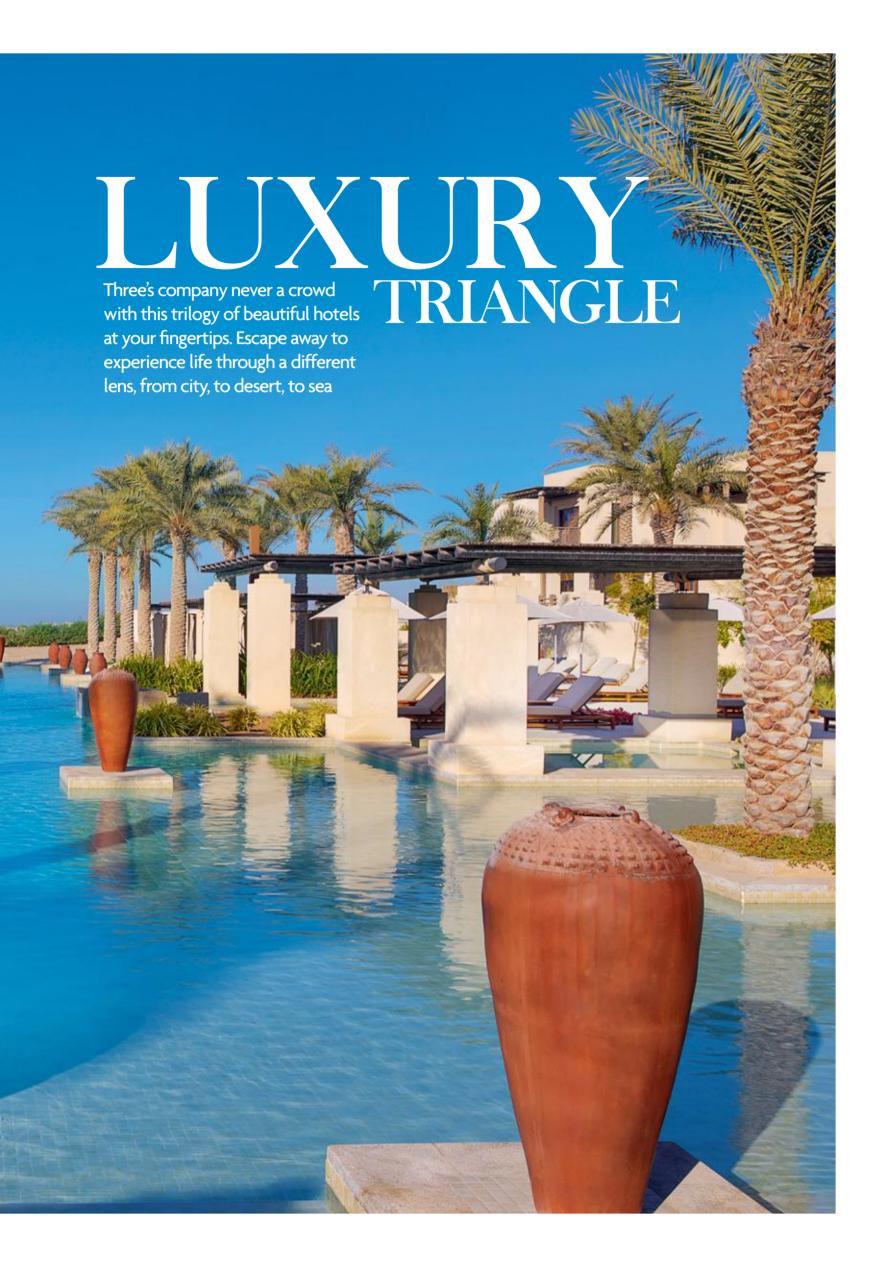
98 A luxury triangle of hotels, from city, to desert to sea

106 Get the lowdown on autumn's coolest things for kids











SPEND IT

UNIQUE EXPERIENCES AND SOPHISTICATED ESSENTIALS



THE MOST BEAUTIFUL RACE

Chopard and Bamford Watch Department have combined their love of motor-racing with the art of timekeeping to launch a 33-piece limited edition watch, the Mille Miglia Bamford Edition. The sporty and highly contemporary timepiece has a 42mm case in bead-blasted Diamond Like Carbon stainless steel, and a dark grey dial with orange markings. Style and precision at its finest.

- 110 Rebel hearts, attitude and anarchy in accessorising
- Watches in a sea of silver and blue mirror the magnetism of the Arabian Gulf
- 114 Breguet's new watch celebrates the equation of time
- 116 It's show-and-tell time as Broadway beckons and New York dials up the charm

SPEND IT WATCHES



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www.rogerdubuis.com

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Defy Midnight watch in 36mm steel case, with a diamond-set bezel with gradient blue dial featuring diamonds and painted stars www.zenith.com



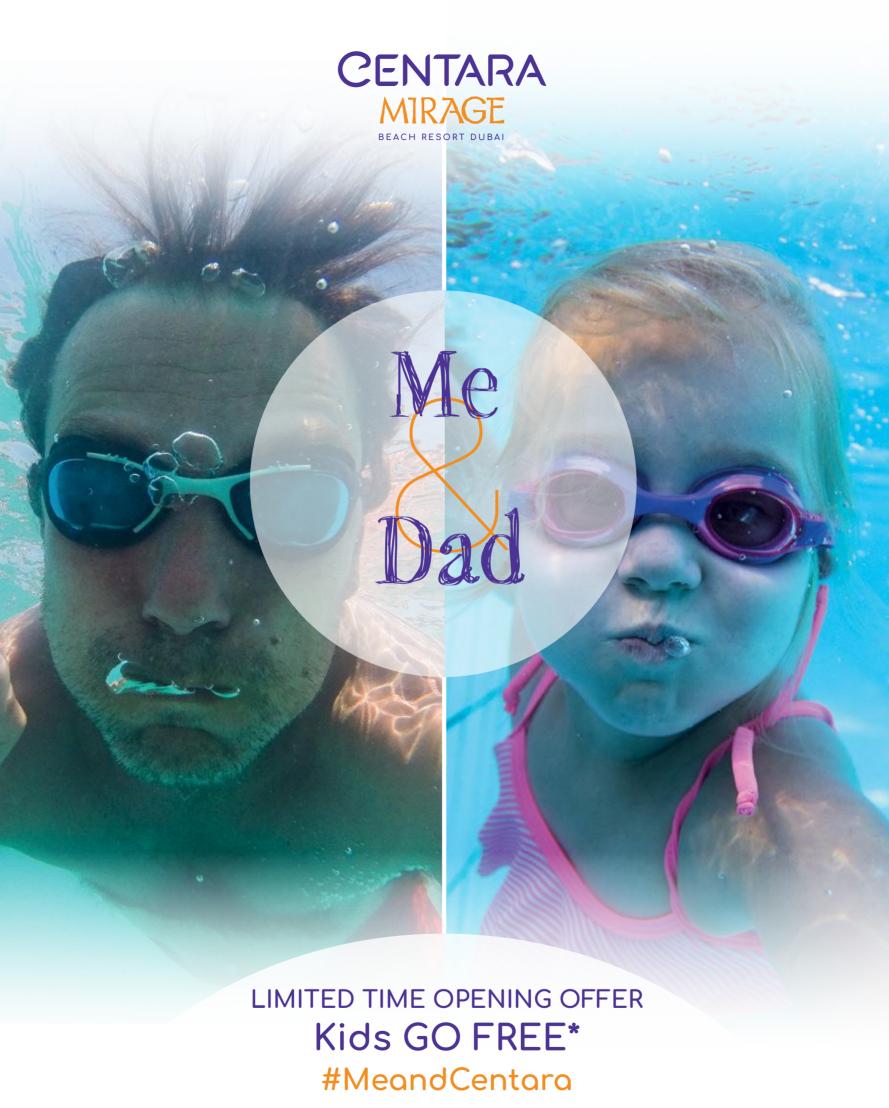


FOR NEW YORK'S ECONOMY, news that Broadway is open again and ready for business is just the post-pandemic buzz we all need. So, as theatre-lovers shout encore the stalls and belt out bravo from their box, it's definitely curtains up this autumn. To ensure you set the scene accordingly, Mandarin Oriental New York provides the prettiest setting from which to get dolled up to the nines for your night out. Overlooking Central Park and Manhattan's rather magnificent skyline, the hotel is five-star service and luxury all the way. To take your night to the next level, the hotel's exclusive Broadway VIP Experience (from US \$995) and Hamilton Broadway VIP Experience (from US \$1,921) will afford you a night's stay, two Orchestra-level tickets for Aladdin, Hadestown, Mrs. Doubtfire, Wicked or Hamilton, show merchandise and - the best bit by far - a one-hour meetand-greet with a star from the show at MO Lounge, along with its 'Broadway, Bubbles and Bites' tasting menu. What do ya say, it's showtime, baby!





www.mandarinoriental.com



Book from now till 30th November 2021 for stays until 15th December 2021. Terms & conditions apply.













