#### DESTINATIONS OF THE WORLD



#### NATURE'S MASTERPIECE

Exploring Utah's mystical landscapes

#### BEYOND THE BEACH

Why Mauritius is so much more than a honeymoon holiday

THURS

#### WELCOME TO THE JUNGLE The first Banyan Tree

Escape opens in Bali

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Surrounded by fashion from a very young age, Kaia Gerber is no stranger to the modelling world. While following her famous mother onto the most exclusive runways and photoshoots, she is now choosing to walk a unique path, bringing her own sense of style and personality to the role. It's a family passion, with a very bright future.



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DUBAI INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL CENTRE

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# dynamic city tranquil nature

# azerbaijan TAKE ANOTHER LOOK

#ExperienceAzerbaijan





WHERE TO STAY NOW

As Bali introduces the first ever Banyan Tree Escape (pictured), overlooking Ayung River near Buahan Village, other new properties worth noting include Gleneagles Townhouse in Edinburgh, Scotland; Alila Kothaifaru in the Maldives, and Villa Igiea, a Rocco Forte Hotel in Palermo. Little Black Books at the ready

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#### A DESERT ICON REIMAGINED IN DUBAI

FOR MORE THAN 20 YEARS, BAB AL SHAMS HAS been the quintessential desert escape for well-heeled travellers in Dubai: a picturesque retreat where guests can experience a flavour of Arabia before its rapid modernisation. When it reopens in 2023 after a major redesign, the much-loved resort will become the first member of Kerzner's Rare Finds, a collection of unique luxury resorts that capture the culture and essence of a destination.

The new-look resort promises a completely reimagined aesthetic and a collection of new

destination experiences that forge an indelible connection to the environment: think desert infinity pool surrounded by private cabanas and a Desert Spa with offerings such as hot sand therapy.

While the original Bab Al Shams took guests on a journey through the cuisine of the Arabian Peninsula in its spectacular al fresco Al Hadheerah restaurant, the new incarnation will focus on modern Arabian dining, championing local producers and using responsibly-sourced ingredients in its restaurants. Bespoke outdoor activities and curated itineraries will immerse guests in the desert landscape and Arabian heritage. Programmes will include sandboarding in the dunes, equestrian sports, desert safaris and stargazing with the resort's own astronomer, as well as fireside storytelling and hot air balloon rides.

Bab Al Shams is the first member of the new Rare Finds collection, which joins One&Only Resorts, Atlantis Resorts & Residences and wellness and fitness-focused SIRO Hotels as part of the Kerzner family. www.rarefindsresorts.com



#### WILDLIFE AND WELLNESS IN KEMPINSKI'S NEW RESIDENCES

AS DEMAND FOR BRANDED LUXURY RESIDENCES CONTINUES TO GROW in the UAE, Kempinski has revealed plans for a collection of elegant waterfront hideaways on Dubai Creek with a focus on health and wellness. Inspired by the wadis, oases and waterfalls of the Hajar Mountains, Kempinski Residences The Creek cuts a sharp figure in the natural surroundings of Al Jaddaf on the banks of Dubai Creek, with cascading terraces that will provide families with spacious outdoor living and spectacular views of neighbouring Ras Al Khor Wildlife Sanctuary.

Kempinski will manage the residences on behalf of Swiss Property, which aims to create a haven where owners can pursue a balanced lifestyle centred around health and fitness. The residences are surrounded by landscaped gardens, play areas and meandering walkways, as well as a swimming pool, padel tennis, beach volleyball and basketball court, and abundant space for outdoor exercises.

The 285 homes range from generously proportioned one-bedroom residences to family sized four-bed duplexes, with a range of layout options to account for all tastes. Light-filled interiors provide plenty of space, with high ceilings, floor-to-ceiling windows and high-spec finishes. Owners will have access to a gym and fitness centre, a private cinema and a residents' clubhouse that will act as a hub for the owner community: a collection of like-minded investors who will be ready to move in from late 2024. *www.kempinski.com* 

DID YOU HEAR?

**HOMEGROWN UAE** HOTEL COMPANY **ROTANA HAS** LAUNCHED A **NEW BRAND FOR** INDEPENDENT HOTELS AND RESORTS. THE **EDGE BY ROTANA COLLECTION IS DESIGNED FOR** HOTELIERS THAT WANT TO RETAIN THEIR **INDEPENDENCE WHILE** LEVERAGING ROTANA'S MANAGEMENT KNOW-HOW AND COMMERCIAL SYSTEMS, WHICH HAS SEEN THE COMPANY **GROW EXPONENTIALLY** IN THE LAST 30 YEARS. **ROTANA CURRENTLY** HAS 70 HOTELS IN **OPERATION AND 42** IN THE PIPELINE. WWW.ROTANA.COM



#### HERITAGE AND ECO-**RETREATS IN SHARJAH**

IN THE LAST DECADE, THE EMIRATE OF SHARJAH has carved out a niche as the home of Emirati culture and heritage, a place where traditional Islamic values and historic places are preserved and celebrated. Guiding the growth is Shurooq - the Sharjah Investment and Development Authority – which has led several of the major preservation and tourism projects now putting the emirate on the map. In addition to three ongoing projects across Sharjah, Shurooq recently announced two new developments that will immerse visitors in unique destination experiences.

The Serai Wing, Bait Khalid bin Ibrahim, is an extension of the hugely popular The Chedi Al Bait, the GHM-managed heritage property in the Heart of Sharjah district. Once the 19th-century family home of a pearl merchant, The Serai Wing will become a self-contained 12-suite boutique wing to complement the existing 53 rooms and suites of The Chedi Al Bait when it opens later this year. The hotel is designed

as a modern take on a traditional Emirati merchant's home, giving guests a flavour of daily life for a well-to-do family 100 years ago.

Nestled in the Hajar Mountains above the coastal city of Khorfakkan, Najd Al Meqsar Village is the second new project announced by Shurooq at the Arabian Travel Market in May. Part of a larger revitalisation project in the Wadi Shie archaeological site, the 100-year-old village comprises 13 restored houses and the 300-year-old Meqsar Fortress, which stands proud on a rocky promontory. The houses are now being transformed into luxurious heritage-style hotel units, which will include private farm villas and villas with private pools.

The new projects will complement the other developments currently taking shape in the Emirate, including two new LUX\* nature resorts and NOMAD by Mysk, a collection of 20 fully-equipped trailers scattered along the sandy beaches of Al Hamriyah. www.shurooq.gov.ae

#### **ALL ABOARD** THE QE2 WITH ACCOR A REGULAR SIGHT ON THE DUBAI COAST SINCE IT DOCKED

in Port Rashid for the last time in 2008, the Oueen Elizabeth 2 once criss-crossed the Atlantic as one of the world's most luxurious cruise liners. The legendary ship, which was converted into a floating hotel in 2018, has become part of Accor's MGallery, a collection of boutique hotels with unique stories to tell.

After an extensive renovation, MGallery Queen Elizabeth 2 will eventually be home to 447 rooms and suites, as well as nine restaurants and bars, a collection of retail boutiques, a swimming pool and gym and extensive space for outdoor events and meetings.

"We are confident that once finalised, the MGallery Queen Elizabeth 2 will become a true must-visit attraction, sharing her own stories with her guests while offering a truly unforgettable experience on-board," says Mark Willis, CEO of Accor India, Middle East, Africa & Turkey.

Situated at the mouth of Dubai Creek, Port Rashid is close to Dubai's historic old town, while sights such as The Dubai Mall, Burj Khalifa and Palm Jumeirah are all less than 30 minutes away. www.accor.com







Explore The Magic of the Maldives with Grand Park Kodhipparu

Nestled in the beautiful cerulean waters of the North Male Atoll, and just a 20-minute speedboat ride from Velana International Airport, Grand Park Kodhipparu awaits. An exclusive address on a one-resort island, privacy is paramount, with peace and tranquillity set to a backdrop of pristine beaches and palm trees.

Traditional influences are paired with sophisticated interior design to create villas that are relaxed and homely, with the five-star service of your dedicated villa host to tend to your every wish and whim, whatever hour of the day.

With a collection of beach and over-water villas, you'll find accommodation perfect for you. Choose a Lagoon Water Villa with private sun terrace and hammock for direct access to the shallow waters of the lagoon; a Beach Pool Villa with a private plunge pool, garden and the beach just steps from your terrace; or the two-bedroom Grand Residence, with its glass floor, private pool and uninterrupted views of the Indian Ocean.

Soak up the sun and pass the days away marvelling at the vibrant house reef, where a whole other world can be found. Join a snorkelling trip with the resort's marine biologist to learn more about the magic found beneath the waves.

Relax into island life with the flexibility of a dine-around meal plan that lets guests go with the flow. With half-board, full-board or a more personalised plan to suit you, immerse yourself in the best cuisine from around the world. Or, create memories to last a lifetime with a 'Private Island Dining' experience tailor-made just for you, from a floating breakfast in your private pool to a sandbank dinner under the stars.

Perfect for celebrations, reunions and reconnections, cherish your time in paradise at Grand Park Kodhipparu where dreams really do come true. All you have to do is book, and let us do the rest...

\*Terms and conditions apply

Grand Park Kodhipparu, Maldives P.O.Box 2168, North Male Atoll - Republic of Madives e.rsvn.gpkd@parkhotelgroup.com | p. (960) 665 1111 parkhotelgroup.com/en/maldives



grandparkkodhipparu



## DESTINATIONS THE WORLD'S MOST DESIRABLE LOCATIONS



PHOTO: Filip Fuxa/Shutterstock



CARVED IN OUR HEARTS This month we take you on a magical mystery tour, from Utah to see The Wave, a multi-coloured chute with incredible bands of red, pink and yellow (above), to the islands of the Indian Ocean for outof-this-world experiences and some of the most exquisite hotels to stay in this summer

- Indian Ocean: Ultra-luxe experiences and where to lay 48 your head in paradise
- Discover one of nature's most magical masterpieces, 58 with Utah's mystical landscapes and geological gems
- Scratch beneath the surface to find out why Mauritius 66 offers so much more than just a honeymoon holiday
- 74 Escapes: Pack your bags and come with us...



# CAST AWAY

Aqua skies, cerulean waters and islands that bask in an endless summer, it could only be the Indian Ocean. Sometimes too much choice clouds the mind, so we've done the heavy-lifting for you and curated a collection of some of our favourite properties, from the Seychelles, to the Maldives and Mauritius. Sea you there...





















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# HE MOST BEAUTIFUL PLACES TO STAY IN

# RUUU MEET ME IN MARBELLA UHHHH

A triptych of boutique hotels awaits in Marbella, each far from the madding crowd and awash with cultural reference points, both inside and out. Oh, and the views from the rooftops are worth the air-fare alone. Elsewhere, we check into the all-new W Dubai - Mina Seyahi and spend 24 hours at the sweeping Dubai Creek Resort

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- 84 24 Hours At... Dubai Creek Resort
- 88 City of Joy: Discover the magic of Marbella
- **90** Staycations: The best offers from around the Middle East
- 96 Get the lowdown on this month's coolest things for kids



VIEWS FOR DAYS

For a city stay of epic scenic proportions, you can't do much better than Address Boulevard in Dubai, with its views of the world's tallest tower, Burj Khalifa. It also has direct access to The Dubai Mall, meaning luxury shopping, restaurants and entertainment are all at your fingertips. Stay in the hotel's only Address Suite for the best of modern luxury and make the most of its front-row views. Book directly with Address Hotels and you'll get 10 per cent off Best Available Rate, a personalised welcome, priority check-in, complimentary in-room treats, late check-otu and 15 per cent off hotel restaurants and in-room dining. www.addresshotels.com

# Arabian Journeys

Wellness-inspired weekends away are top of the agenda, as are culinary staycations, as we all know good food is good for the soul

#### HEALTH IS WEALTH

On a mission to infuse every visit with a sense of wellbeing, Mysk Al Badayer at Al Madam, part of the Sharjah Collection by Mysk, is offering a full-day or overnight wellness programs for those wanting to rest, relax and recalibrate. The day program offers yoga by the beach, cycling or a nature walk, an evening bonfire and a healthy lunch. Or, if you fancy staying overnight, you'll get access to the sunset meditation lounge, and can enjoy 30 minutes of cycling, a healthy lunch and an evening bonfire. *www.myskhotels.com* 

#### COOL OFF IN THE CITY

When the mercury hits a certain point in the Middle East, but you still want a staycation, it's best to do it somewhere that has everything you could want under one air-conditioned roof! Kempinski Hotel Mall of the Emirates works its magic, with its central location and direct access to the mall, where Ski Dubai, Vox Cinemas, luxury shopping and fine dining will keep everyone entertained. To keep you even cooler, book an Executive Grand Deluxe room, a suite or Aspen Ski Chalet with the exclusive UAE Residents Offer and you can save 20 per cent off best flexible rate, 20 per cent off F&B and two complimentary Snow Park tickets (with suite or Aspen Chalet), and access to the Executive Lounge. Shop, up a storm, dip into the infinity pool, sip cocktails at Aspen and then enjoy dinner at Salero, to see Chef Jordi Bataller unveil the restaurant's all-new summer menu. www.kempinski.com



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> For table reservations, please call: 04 435 5577 or email: dining@hiltonalhabtoorcity.com

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# SPEND IT

#### UNIQUE EXPERIENCES AND SOPHISTICATED ESSENTIALS



#### A HISTORY LESSON

Vacheron Constantin's new limited edition Métiers d'Art watches pay tribute to great civilisations of antiquity in collaboration with the Louvre, Paris. Four pieces from the museum, representative of four eras, are depicted on the dials, from the Persian Empire under Darius, pharaonic Egypt during the Middle Kingdom, the Hellenistic period of Greece, and the Roman Empire under Augustus. Wearable history.

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# MAGIC HOUR

Legendary Swiss watchmaker OMEGA celebrates the magical qualities of its timekeeping precision and prowess by taking horologists to a whole new world

onversations about time have taken place ad infinitum, with physicians, scholars and watchmakers long debating and chronicling its nature, constructs and evolution. Since 1848, when young watchmaker Louis Brandt opened his first workshop and founded OMEGA, the Swiss watchmaking brand has played a pivotal role in that conversation, establishing itself as a leading innovator with timepieces

that constantly push the boundaries of both design and technique.

Now, 174 years on, OMEGA is celebrating its legendary history and the magical qualities of its precise and delicate watch mechanisms with the launch of a beautiful campaign that turns watch calibres into dreamlike worlds.

The inner workings of Co-Axial movements create the perfect stage setting for this playful celebration of OMEGA's extraordinary achievements. The campaign tells the story of the brand's technical prowess and pioneering spirit using intricate, scaled-down figures and iconic objects which are set against the backdrop of enchanting and futuristic 'watch-scapes'.

The campaign features several different themes, each a key moment

in OMEGA's watchmaking journey, including moon landings, deepsea adventures, sports timekeeping and the precision of watchmaking, the hallmark of OMEGA. Even Snoopy makes an appearance – the beloved intergalactic cartoon canine that became the face of NASA's safety programme in 1968, and which has ties to OMEGA's role in the safe return of Apollo 13 in 1970.

Also making a return in the campaign is OMEGA's Co-Axial Escapement, a watch that signalled a turning point in mechanical watchmaking when it launched in 1999. Its smaller contact surfaces mean less friction, less lubrication and greater reliability, with the escapement also working its magic as a sculptural feature within the campaign's cinematic landscape.

As watchmaking techniques evolve to become ever more modern and sophisticated, OMEGA's magical-meets-sci-fi campaign takes the viewer away from the realms of reality to somewhere otherworldly, letting its animated models, both witty and charming, sell a sense of mystical escapism.

While time may not be able to stand still, it can take you to whole new dimensions, with a bit of imagination and a little help from OMEGA. *www.omegawatches.com* 

#### SPEND IT OUT OF THIS WORLD



### **I DREAM OF QUEENIE**

To mark Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee this summer, Rocco Forte Hotels has curated the Great British Jubilee Journey, taking you from London to Edinburgh

IT'S NOT EVERY YEAR ONE GETS TO CELEBRATE AN OCCASION OF SUCH DISTINCTION as Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee. As the third longest reigning monarch in world history, it seems only fitting that any celebration should match in stature. Step forward Rocco Forte Hotels, which has dreamt up the rather regal and exclusive Great British Jubilee Journey to showcase some of the Royal's most loved haunts and treasured highlights in the UK.

The journey starts in London at the capital's first hotel, Brown's, which has welcomed a long line of Royals over the years. You'll check into the stately Dover Suite for two nights, before enjoying the legendary affair that is Afternoon Tea at Brown's, something that both Queen Victoria and Queen Elizabeth were partial too in the past. Next, you can explore the hotel's historical environs of Mayfair and St. James, the Royal Parks and Westminster Abbey, before heading out on a bespoke walking tour with master historian Sophie Malerba who will unveil the secrets and gossip of the monarchy as you tick off three historical palaces and Royal Warrant boutiques. Back at the hotel, you're invited to toast Her Majesty with 'The Jubilee Gintini', a cocktail expertly crafted for the royal occasion at the deliciously decadent Donovan Bar.

When it's time to leave Brown's, you'll do so with a hamper stuffed with great British foodie favourites to accompany you on your journey north, in the comfort of a first-class train carriage no less. When you arrive at Edinburgh's Waverly Station, The Balmoral doorman will accompany you the short journey up to the hotel, where you'll check into the illustrious Bowes-Lyon Suite, named in honour of Queen Elizabeth's mother, a former patron of The Balmoral. During your stay, you'll experience a 'behind-the-ropes' VIP tour of the Royal Yacht Brittania, once the Royal residence of The Queen and Prince Philip, refuelling with a Platinum Jubilee Cocktail and macarons. Back at The Balmoral, you can assume the role of a royal as you sip on the Queen's favourite aperitif – gin and Dubbonet – before a three-course dinner at the relaxed Brasserie Prince. A bottle of Baile Mhoireil gin will be waiting for you in your suite, allowing you to toast Her Majesty one last time before you tuck yourself in to dream of Queenie. The Great British Jubilee Journey starts from Dhs6o,ooo for two people sharing. *www.roccofortehotels.com* 



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Stay longer package is valid until December 20, 2022 For reservations, please call +971 4 512 5555 or use promo code UK8



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