

DESTINATIONS OF THE WORLD
news

Essential travel intelligence

July 2025

PORTUGUESE PERFECTION

Delving into architecture, wine
and books in the city of Porto

NO REGRETS

Marco Pierre White on
life after the kitchen

FLOATING ON A CLOUD

Sailing the Adriatic
Sea in style aboard
Sea Cloud II

EUROPEAN EXCELLENCE

MAGNIFICENT MOUNTAIN ESCAPES AND SEASIDE
SOJOURNS, FROM ICELAND TO ALBANIA

EXCLUSIVE TIMEPIECES



EXQUISITE JEWELS



UNIQUE ESCAPES



LUXURY CARS



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WHERE MOMENTS BECOME MEMORIES

Rixos Bab Al Bahr is more than just a place to stay, it's where families reconnect, friends laugh louder, and every moment turns into a memory worth keeping.

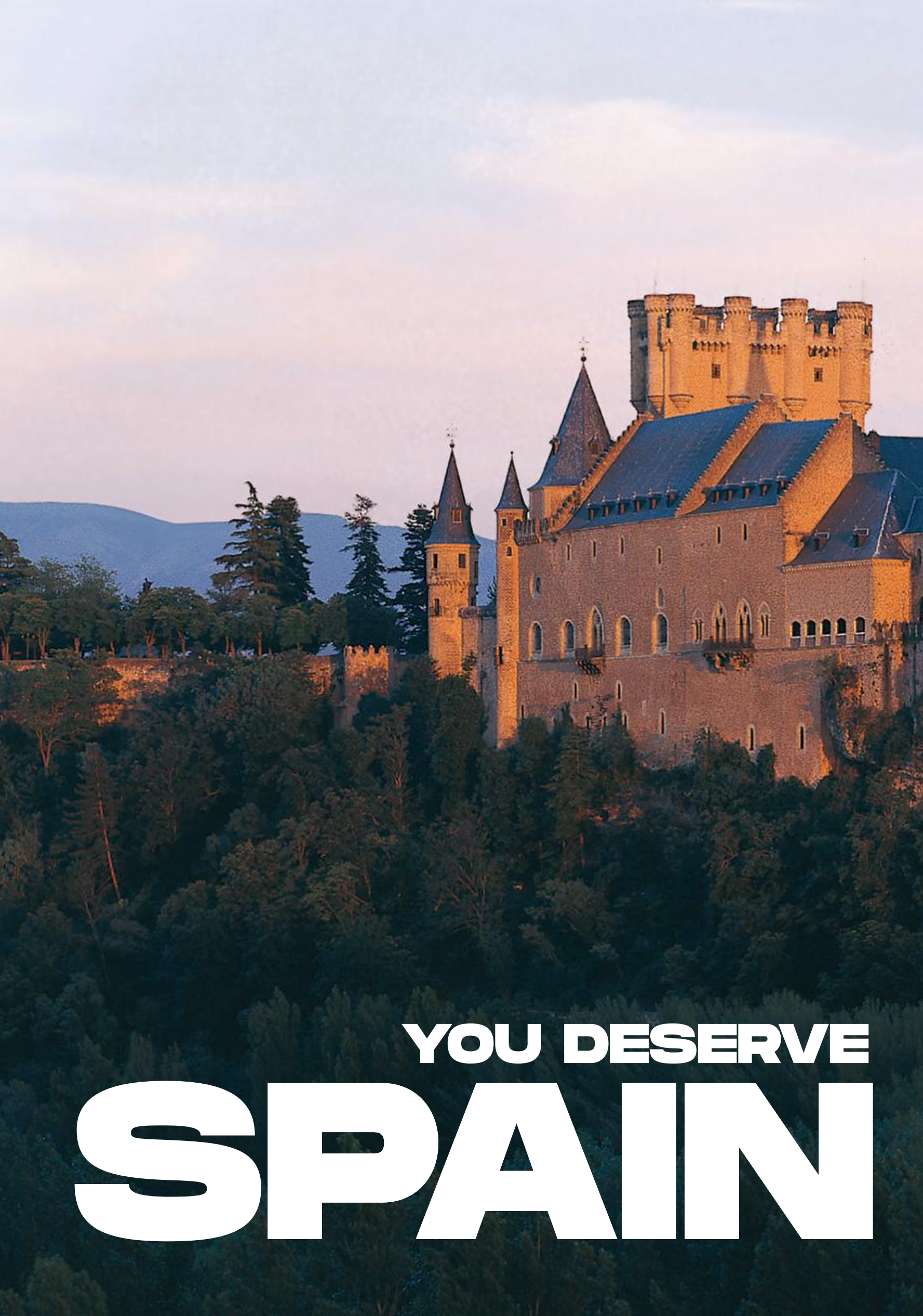
Set on the pristine shores of Al Marjan Island, this all-inclusive haven is where your every day becomes a celebration. Splash through sunny afternoons with the kids at Rixy Kids Club, toast to togetherness at sunset, and dance the night away under Ras Al Khaimah's starlit skies. From flavour-packed dining to live entertainment, from beachside adventures to blissful spa escapes, every experience is crafted to bring people closer.

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Old City, Baku



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CONTENTS

July 2025

DESTINATIONS

62 Unexplored Azerbaijan

Delving into the green and pleasant lands of Gabala, an alpine haven in northern Azerbaijan

64 Porto in 48 Hours

Baroque architecture, fabulous fortified wine and a booming literary scene await in Porto

72 Retune and Unwind

Reviving your energy levels in the beauty of Le Jadis Beach Resort & Wellness Mauritius

74 A Tropical Playground

Lost among Haa Alifu Atoll, find out why Hideaway Beach Resort & Spa is worth the journey

76 Magical Mauritius

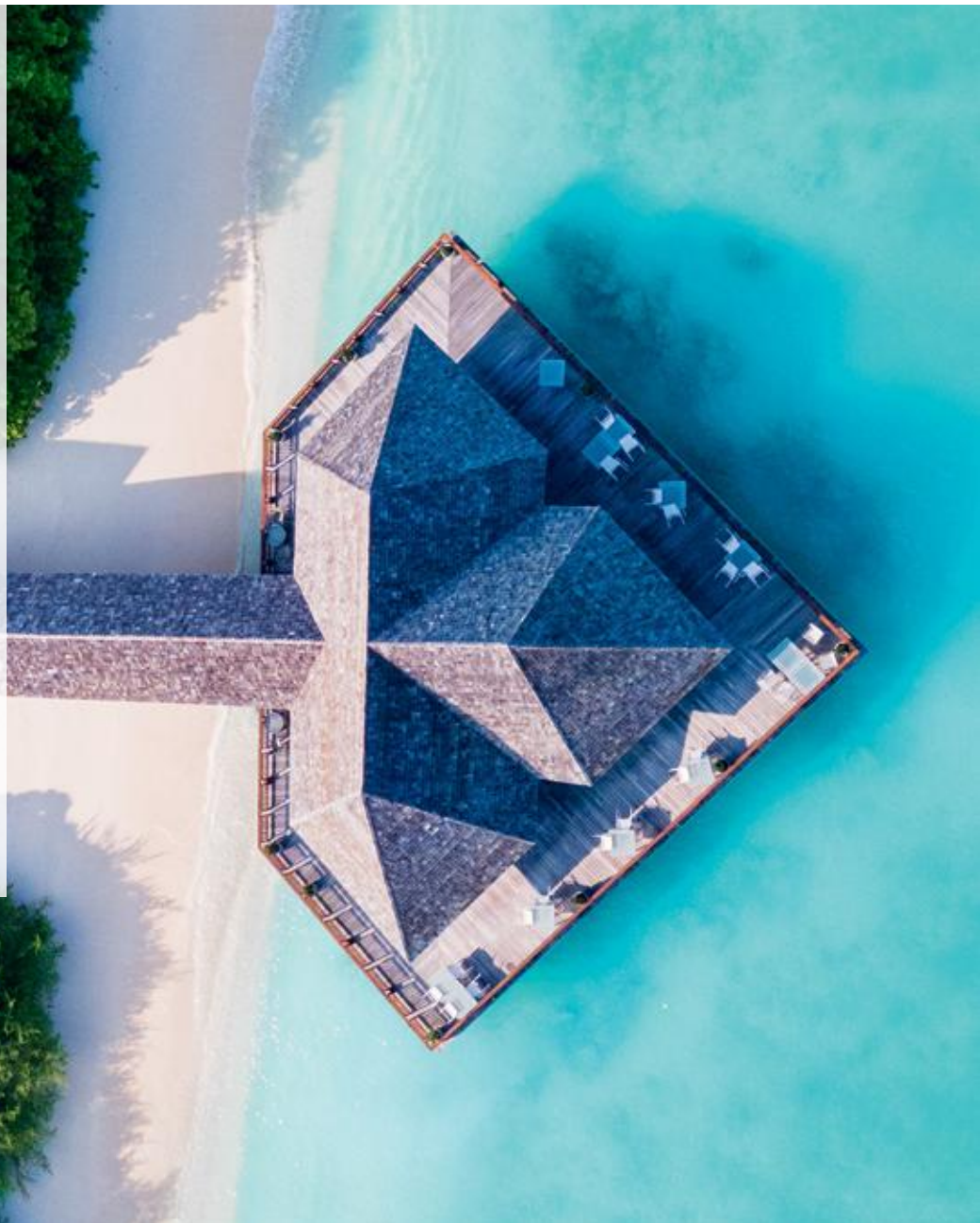
Blending nature and first class service, OUTRIGGER Mauritius Beach Resort welcomes guests to paradise

78 Rooftop Refuge

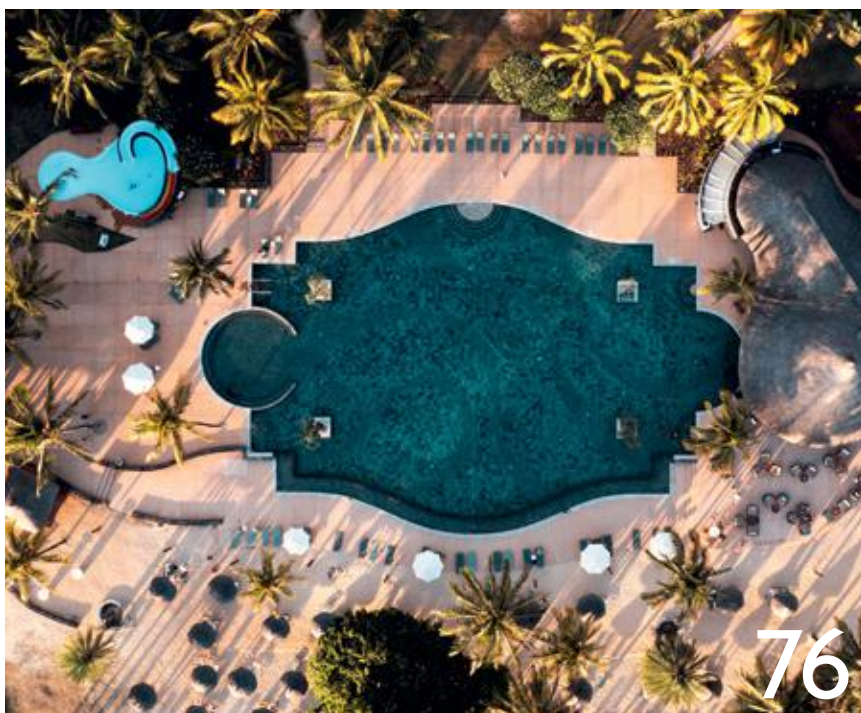
Escaping the thronging crowds of Venice for the tranquil surrounds of Nolini Venezia

80 Escapes

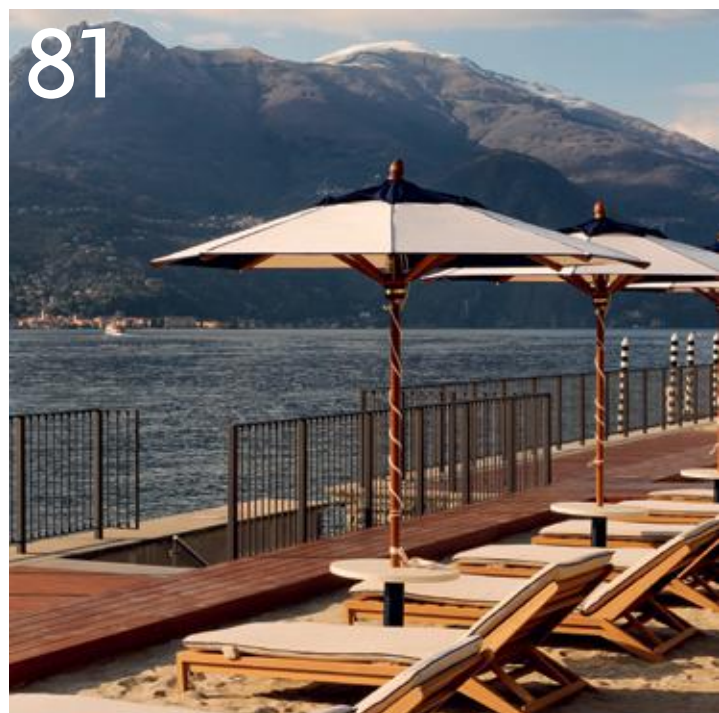
Lose yourself in these far-flung destinations



74



76



81



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HOTEL
DUBAI



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JAresortshotels.com

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CONTENTS

July 2025

NEWS

- 22 Euro News**
- 26 Middle East & Africa News**
- 30 Asia & Oceania News**
- 34 Americas News**
- 38 Debut**
- 42 Residences**

GOURMET

- 46 Gourmet Interview**
In conversation with Marco Pierre White
- 52 Gourmet Review**
Sporting new interiors, does The Georgian at Harrod's live up to its reputation?
- 56 Gourmet News**
The latest happenings from the world of culinary creativity

HOTELS

- 84 An Ode to Oman**
Mandarin Oriental, Muscat tells the story of Oman at every turn
- 88 The Spectacular Show**
Dazzling entertainment and sublime service await at Rixos Bab Al Bahr
- 90 Star of the Show**
Eight essential items to bring to your Al Habtoor City getaway this summer
- 92 The Art of the Staycation**
Falling for the charms of JA Ocean View Hotel
- 94 Arabian Journeys**
Elegant escapes in the GCC
- 96 A Summer Escape**
Four Seasons Hotels & Resorts welcomes travellers to explore sensational destinations
- 99 A Summertime Treat**
Shangri-La Dubai welcomes guests to take their pick from three phenomenal packages
- 100 Summer Adventure Awaits**
Thrilling experiences for all the family at Fairmont Bab al Bahr
- 102 Luxe Kids**
The best things to do for little ones
- 104 In Conversation With**
HRH Prince Juan Bagration-Mukhrani



46



52



31

SPEND IT

- 110 Silent Style**
New levels of relaxation at Armani Spa
- 114 Objects of Desire**
Introducing the Bugatti Calandre Table Clock
- 116 Blue Magic**
Eight cool blue watches to sport this month
- 118 Shining Gems**
Colourful jewellery to excite any look
- 120 A Ferrari for Family**
Does the Ferrari Purosangue SUV deserve to bear the iconic Prancing Horse emblem?
- 128 Roma Reincarnated**
Revealing the new Ferrari Amalfi
- 130 Motoring News**
All the latest model unveilings in the world of automobiles
- 132 Floating on a Cloud**
Navigating the Adriatic Sea in luxury aboard *Sea Cloud II*
- 140 Out of this World**
Paying homage to James Bond in the mountains above Lake Lucerne



120



114

Elevated Luxury



FOR MORE
INFORMATION



Your Secluded Oasis

Escape to The Signature Collection at Hideaway. A pristine haven featuring nine Ultra-luxurious residences at Hideaway Beach Resort & Spa in the Maldives, where you can blissfully connect with those closest to you in the embrace of untouched nature.

Situated on the resort's most northern point and enjoying coveted proximity to its most spectacular beach, each residence beautifully encompasses the philosophy of "barefoot luxury", with space to unwind, discover, and simply be pampered just like Royalty – in a place where all your vacay dreams come true.



HIDEAWAY

BEACH RESORT & SPA
DHONAKULHI MALDIVES

NEWS

HOT EVENTS, NEW HOTELS AND GLOBAL JET-SETTERS



30

OCEAN DELIGHT
Amanoi reveals its uber-luxurious five-bedroom estate, Aman Ocean Residence, which showcases views of Vinh Hy Bay.

- 22** **EURO NEWS** Luxury travel updates from Europe
- 26** **MIDDLE EAST & AFRICA NEWS** From the desert to the savannah, here is the biggest MEA travel news
- 30** **ASIA NEWS** Discover the latest happenings from Asia's luxury travel landscape
- 34** **AMERICAS NEWS** A collection of the biggest travel stories from the Americas and Caribbean
- 38** **DEBUT** Our pick of the best new hotels
- 42** **RESIDENCES** Our pick of the hottest new homes and penthouses

ST. REGIS JEDDAH TO RISE OVER THE RED SEA



MARRIOTT INTERNATIONAL HAS SIGNED AN AGREEMENT with Miyar Alshati Real Estate Company, Tilal Al Wadi Real Estate Company and Saud Al Arifi Investment Group to bring the St. Regis brand to Jeddah, with a luxury hotel and branded residences slated to open in 2030.

Located on the city's Red Sea waterfront and set within the striking, 52-storey U-View Tower, The St. Regis Jeddah will offer 191 guestrooms, suites and serviced apartments—all designed to reflect the brand's modern glamour and legendary butler service. Facilities will include five dining venues, a signature restaurant, spa, indoor pool and more than 1,000 square metres of event space.

The project also features The Residences at The St. Regis Jeddah, comprising 92 one- to five-bedroom branded units with amenities such as a resident lounge, library, meeting spaces and children's activity areas.

This marks the brand's first property in the city and aligns with Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030, supporting its goals for tourism diversification and urban transformation. Situated near landmarks including King Fahd's Fountain and the Jeddah Corniche Circuit, the new property will cater to both leisure and pilgrimage-related travel, offering an elevated base for exploring the Kingdom's western coast.

Marriott.com



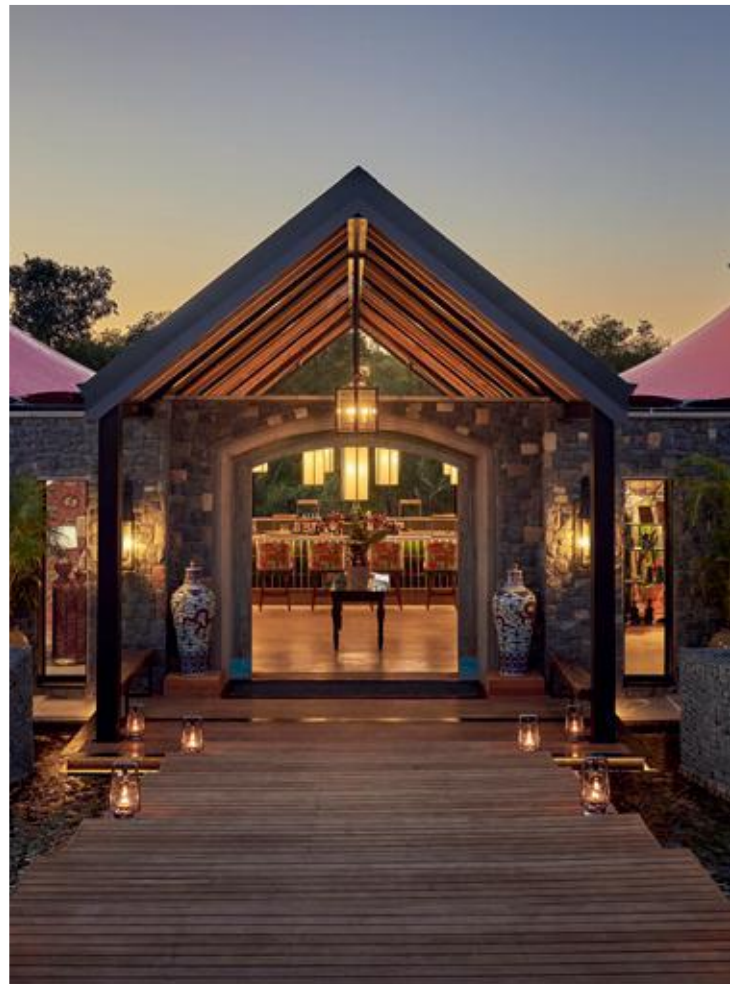
NEW ROYAL MALEWANE TENTED CAMP HONOURS MASTER TRACKER

PART OF SOUTH AFRICA'S HOMEGROWN LUXURY BRAND, THE ROYAL PORTFOLIO, the Royal Malewane safari collection has introduced Masiya's Camp in South Africa, a design-forward tented safari lodge located in the Greater Kruger National Park. Named in honour of the late Wilson Masiya, the reserve's first Master Tracker, the camp offers a tribute to the enduring connection between people and place.

The under-canvas concept comprises six luxury tented suites, each featuring a private heated plunge pool, indoor and outdoor showers, a sala and panoramic bush views. Interiors strike a balance between elegance and warmth—Persian rugs, vintage patterns and bold artwork soften the crisp architectural lines, while each suite adopts its own distinctive palette and character.

At the heart of the camp, vibrant communal spaces include a lounge tent with stacking glass doors, a central pool, a boutique curated by designer Liz Biden and a bar offering 360-degree views. Dining is elevated with à la carte menus, traditional *braais* under the stars and relaxed wood-fired pizza evenings.

Guided game drives and bush walks are led by some of Africa's most experienced trackers, while guests can also witness conservation efforts first-hand through the Royal Malewane Conservation and Research Centre and anti-poaching helicopter patrols. TheRoyalPortfolio.com



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GOURMET

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57

SKY HIGH DINING
Yannick Alléno and Qatar Airways have teamed up to serve a new exquisite menu to first and business class passengers.

- 46 GOURMET INTERVIEW** Marco Pierre White on how kitchen life has changed since his days behind the grill
- 52 GOURMET REVIEW** A century-old London establishment displays a bold new look
- 56 GOURMET NEWS** The latest news from the world of restaurants and bars



HIDDEN LUXURY

Tucked away behind a huge sliding piece of art at the Grand Central Hotel Belfast, new private dining experience The Cavern is one of the most exciting venues that Northern Ireland has ever seen. Led by Damian Tumilty, the hotel's renowned Executive Head Chef, the intimate hidden space instantly impresses with its luxurious materials, layered textures and atmospheric lighting. Providing bespoke customised menus for each

party, it showcases delicious local produce such as Kingsbury Wagyu beef, Carlingford oysters, turbot caviar and Ballycastle lobsters, and provides the perfect setting for special occasions. Located in the heart of Belfast, every course is complemented with premium fine wines, while the 23rd-floor The Observatory bar is the perfect place for post-dinner drinks. Grandcentralhotelbelfast.com



NOVIKOV ARRIVES IN ABU DHABI

Novikov, the world-renowned Mediterranean-Italian hotspot, has made its way to Abu Dhabi's The Galleria Mall Al Maryah Island, and it might just be the brand's most stylish venue yet. Known for its vibrant terraced cafe at the Dubai Mall and its glamorous London flagship, the new Abu Dhabi branch comes complete with a welcoming open kitchen, real olive trees and daily live music, while the pretty waterfront patio is set to open in time for the cooler months. Presenting an array of the brand's most famous signature dishes, the menu offers everything from charcoal-grilled octopus and lobster linguine to elegant classic starters such as buffalo burrata and beef carpaccio. Novikov's London favourites also make an appearance on the menu such as Wagyu tacos and wasabi king crab leg. Novikovabudhabi.ae





FIRST-CLASS DINING TAKES FLIGHT

Travelling with Qatar Airways has just been taken up a notch. Bringing French *art de vivre* up into the clouds (and on the ground), first and business class passengers are now invited to sample exquisite creations from French culinary master Yannick Alléno—one of the world's most decorated chefs—as they travel in total luxury and style. Chef Alléno's signature dishes for Qatar Airways will provide a unique blend of French and global flavours, while passengers are also invited to explore his specialties at the elegant new Pavillon restaurant in the first-class lounge at Hamad International Airport and the Qatar Airways lounge at Paris-Charles de Gaulle Airport. Yannick-alleno.com

Embrace Family Fun
Summer in the Maldives.
Your Ultimate Playground Awaits.



Where Can We Take You?

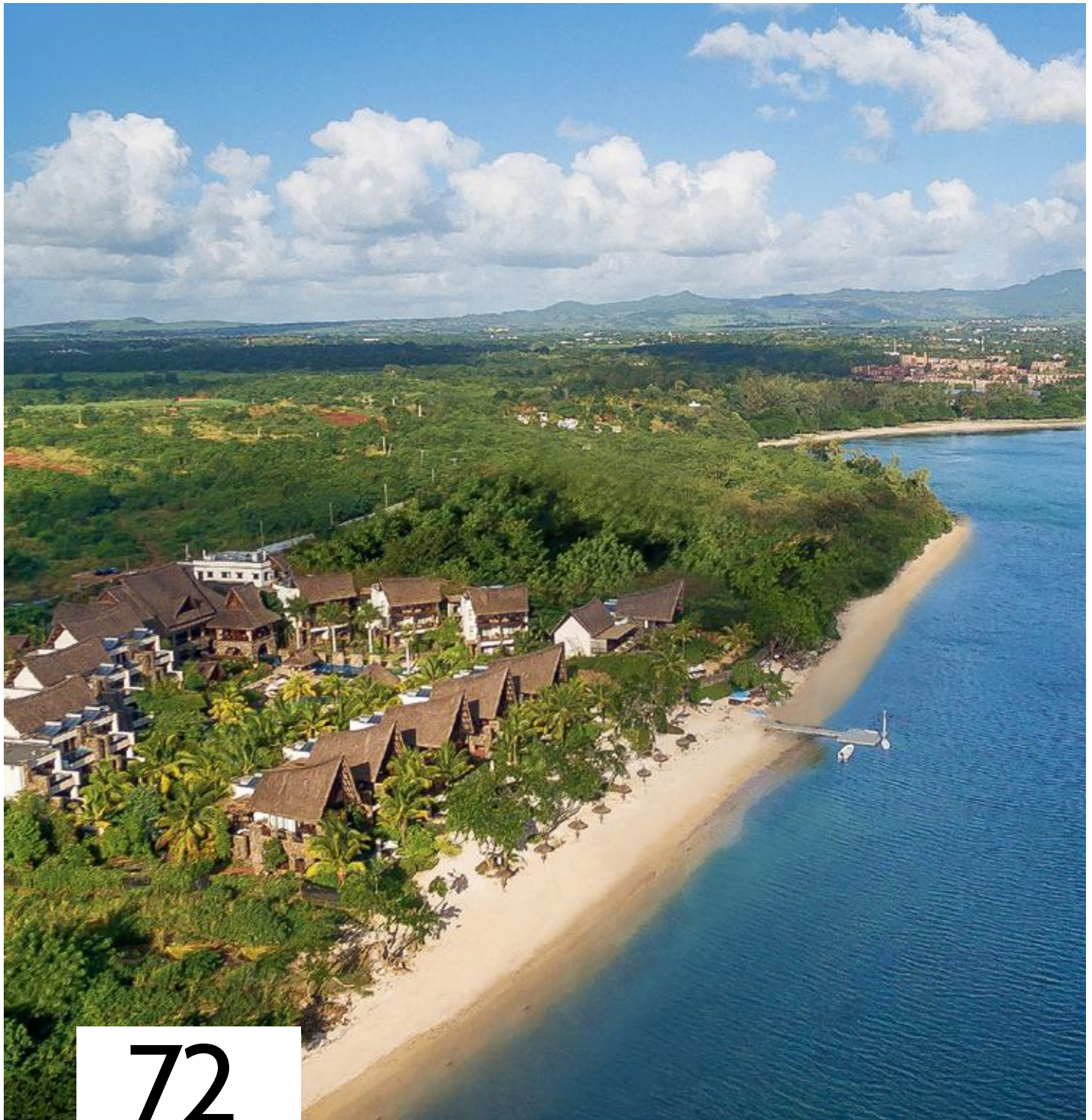
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DISCOVER. BOOK. BE REWARDED.



DESTINATIONS

THE WORLD'S MOST DESIRABLE LOCATIONS



72

MAURITIAN MAJESTY

The enchanting island of Mauritius beckons guests to forget about their problems and enjoy the good life.

- 62** Exploring the green heart of Gabala in northern Azerbaijan
- 64** 48 Hours in Porto: discovering the best of Portugal's second city
- 72** Rejuvenating experiences at Le Jadis Beach Resort & Wellness
- 74** A trip to serenity and nature with Hideaway Beach Resort & Spa
- 76** Embracing laidback luxury with OUTRIGGER Mauritius Beach Resort
- 78** Finding a sanctuary from Venice's crowds at Nolinski Venezia
- 80** Escapes: far-flung adventures to inspire your wanderlust

48 HOURS IN...
PORTO

Known for its opulent Baroque architecture, famous fortified wine and thriving literary scene, the vibrant city of Porto is the perfect two-day city break

Words by HARRIET SHEPHARD





ATMOSPHERE
KANIFUSHI
MALDIVES



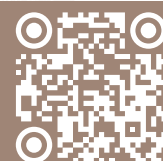
Luxury of Space, Freedom to Relax *at Atmosphere Kanifushi*

Blissfully Tropical. Soak in the Maldivian spirit at a secluded getaway amidst azure waters of the Lhaviyani atoll. Atmosphere Kanifushi is an exhilarating 35-minute seaplane ride from Velana International Airport. Stand-alone beach and water villas spread along the palm fringed, two kilometres long island showcase vast living spaces with splendid interiors. The **Premium All-Inclusive Kanifushi Plan™** blends a range of memorable experiences such as exotic dine around, unlimited spirits and beverages, complimentary minibar replenished daily, ocean excursions, non-motorized water sports, kids club access, and activities and entertainment. We welcome you to enjoy the Maldives' first gourmet vegetarian restaurant, Just Veg as well as delicious Sri Lankan street food served under the canopy of swaying palm trees.

Kanifushi Island, Lhaviyani Atoll, The Maldives

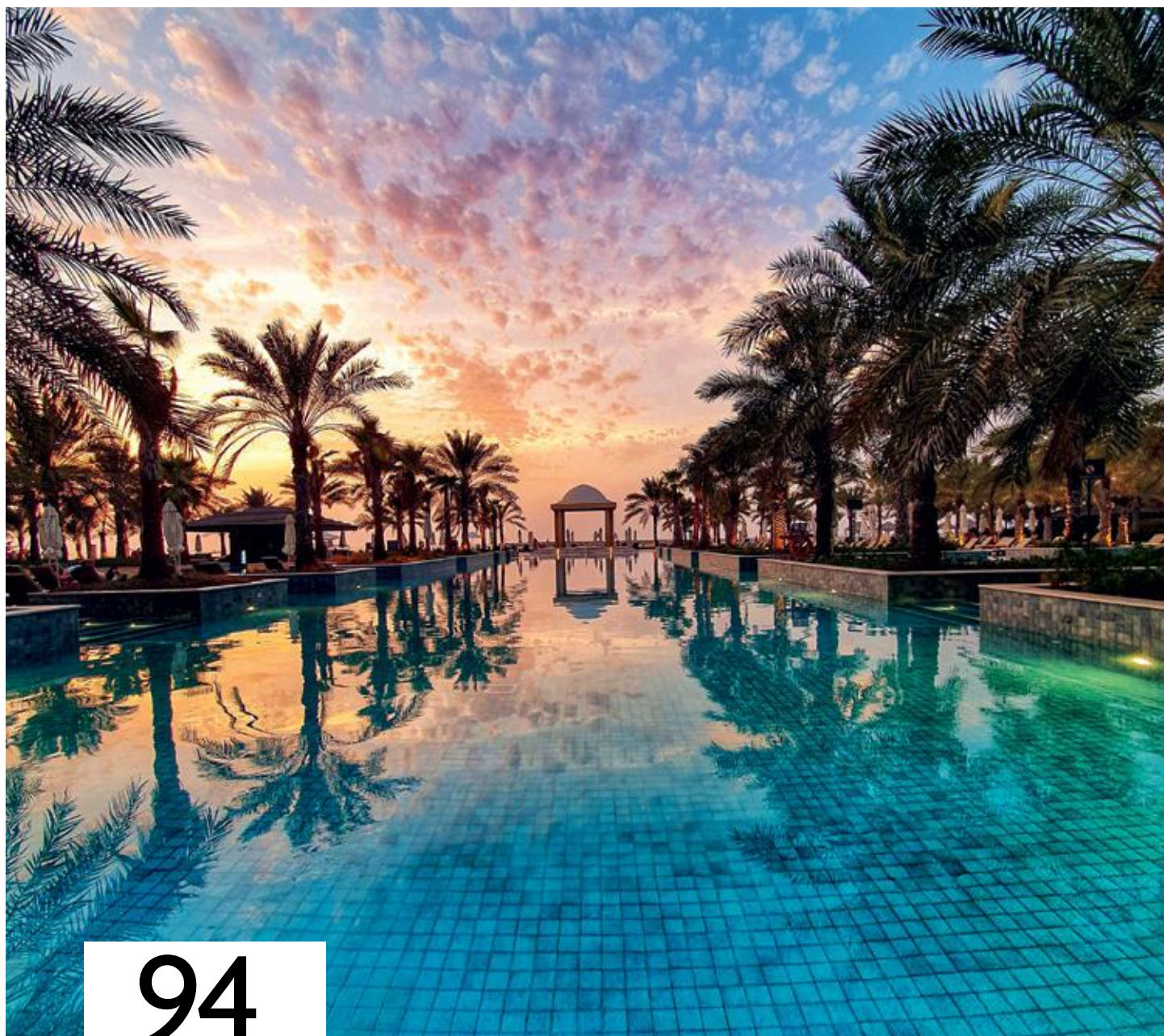
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ATMOSPHERE-KANIFUSHI.COM



HOTELS

THE MOST BEAUTIFUL PLACES TO STAY



94

DESERT SUNSET

Dreamy evenings and first class service await at Rixos Al Mairid Ras Al Khaimah.

- 84** Savouring Omani opulence at Mandarin Oriental, Muscat
- 88** Spectacular entertainment reigns supreme at Rixos Bab Al Bahr
- 90** Living your best life at Al Habtoor City this summer
- 92** Sunsets and laidback luxury at JA Ocean View Hotel
- 94** Staycations: treat yourself to a break in the UAE and beyond
- 96** An extraordinary summer with Four Seasons Hotels & Resorts
- 99** Picking the perfect getaway with Shangri-La Dubai
- 100** The playful escape at Fairmont Bab al Bahr
- 102** The best child-friendly things to do this month
- 104** HRH Prince Juan Bagration-Mukhrani on the rise of Georgia

A night view of a resort pool area. In the foreground, there are three wicker chairs with green cushions arranged around a small table. The pool is illuminated with blue lights, and several lounge chairs are lined up along the edge. Tall palm trees are illuminated from below, and a modern building with a lit tower is visible in the background under a dark blue sky.

AN ODE_{TO} OMAN

Mandarin Oriental, Muscat invites guests to turn the page on the city and country's special history and culture. Matt Cassidy checks in and discovers the beauty of Muscat within the property's elegant and rich surroundings



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UNIQUE EXPERIENCES AND CHIC ESSENTIALS



140

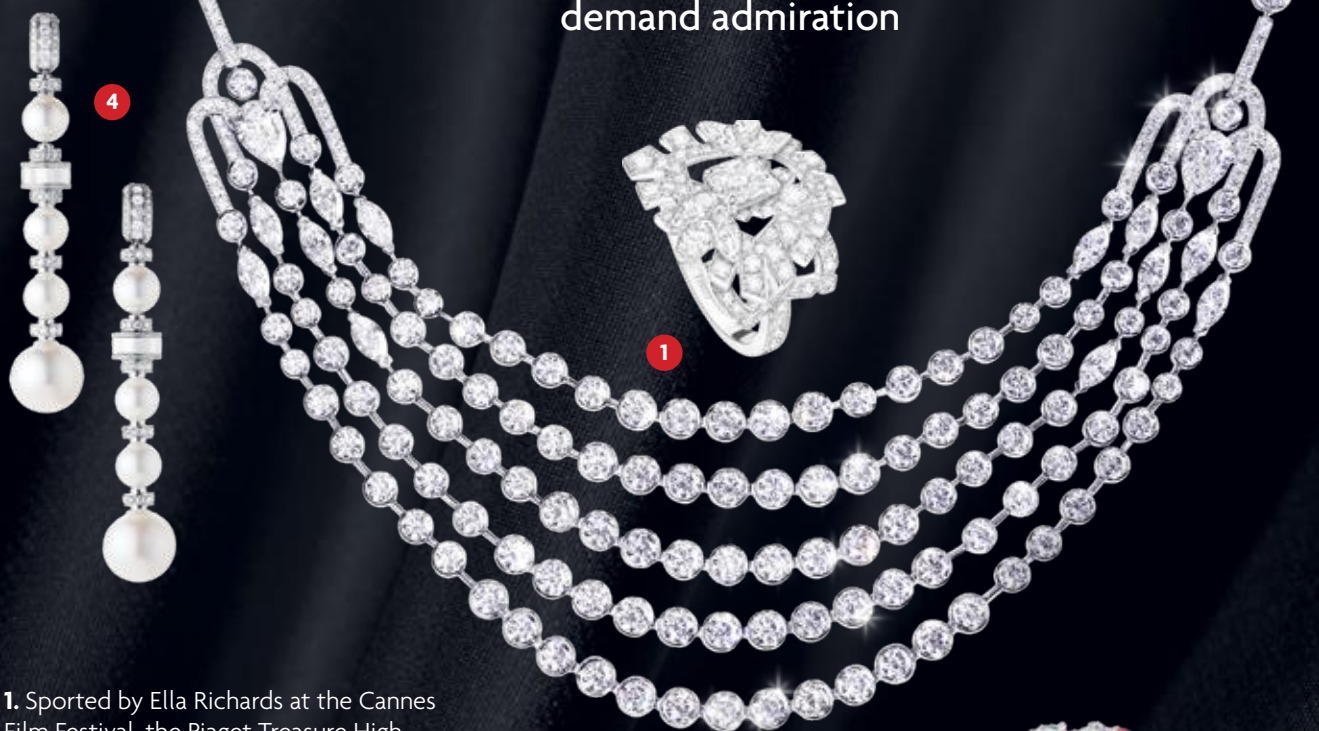
A SWISS MISSION

Take on the role of 007 with an incredible James Bond experience at Bürgenstock Hotel Lake Lucerne to mark the anniversary of *GoldenEye*.

- 110** Mixing style with silence at Armani Spa
- 114** Bugatti, Jacob & Co. and Lalique team up for a special timepiece
- 116** Eight shades of blue to set your watch to
- 118** Dazzling gems to catch your eye this month
- 120** Behind the wheel of Ferrari's debut SUV, the Purosangue
- 128** Ferrari reveals its latest creation, the Amalfi
- 130** All the latest news from the world of cars
- 132** Setting sail for the Adriatic aboard *Sea Cloud II*
- 140** The Swiss mountain escape offering a James Bond experience

SHINING GEMS

From the glitz and glamour of the red carpet to special collaborations, these pieces demand admiration



1. Sported by Ella Richards at the Cannes Film Festival, the Piaget Treasure High Jewelry set consists of a ring that features one motif set with brilliant-cut diamonds and one interpretation set with marquise-cut diamonds, a waterfall-inspired necklace of diamonds and two 18-karat white gold earrings with diamonds. Piaget.com

2. Saint Petersburg-based Parure Atelier presents the Ocean of Cerenity ring from its exclusive selection of Paraiba Tourmaline creations, featuring white gold and diamonds. Parure-at.com

3. Marking the month of the ruby, Arayian Jewellery x Gemfields Capsule Collection showcases this elegant The Modern Classic Ruby Bracelet composed of 17 Mozambican rubies and 119 white diamonds. Arayian.com

4. Worn by Julianne Moore at the European premiere of *Echo Valley*, these Boucheron Art Deco pendant earrings are set with diamonds and pearls on white gold. Boucheron.com





BRIGHT LIGHTS

Showcased by Nadine Nassib Njeim at the opening ceremony of the Cannes Film Festival, CLEO Sculpt from MARLI New York's High Jewellery Collection features a full diamond white gold necklace, full diamond white gold bracelet and a full diamond white gold ring. *Marlinewyork.com*



A ROLLS-ROYCE LEGEND HITS 100

ROLLS-ROYCE MOTOR CARS CELEBRATED 100 YEARS of its most iconic nameplate, the Phantom, with a dazzling showcase at the 2025 Concorso d'Eleganza Villa d'Este.

Taking centre stage was the debut of Phantom Goldfinger, a one-of-one bespoke commission inspired by the 1964 James Bond film *Goldfinger*. The Phantom Extended model, presented on the Grand Hotel Villa d'Este's Mosaic Lawn, features 18- and 24-carat gold detailing and intricate design elements referencing the film's characters, themes and locations.

The debut was made even more poignant by the display of the original 1937 Phantom III Sedanca de Ville, famously driven by Auric Goldfinger in the film. The vintage vehicle served as the inspiration for the new commission.

Rolls-Royce Chief Executive Chris Brownridge said: "In this exceptional location, we are proud to make the public debut of Phantom Goldfinger, a remarkable expression of our Bespoke capabilities and a powerful tribute to a film cherished by the client."

To further commemorate the centenary, Rolls-

Royce exhibited eight original artworks created by its design team, each reflecting a different era of the Phantom's evolution and cultural influence.

The event also featured an appearance by a pristine Phantom V during the opening parade—a model once favoured by global political and cultural figures.

The debut of Phantom Goldfinger, set against the artistic and automotive grandeur of Villa d'Este, underscored Phantom's legacy as a symbol of timeless craftsmanship, luxury and cinematic heritage. [Rolls-roycemotorcars.com](https://www.rolls-roycemotorcars.com)

THE NEW SPEED IS AS FAST AS IT SOUNDS



BENTLEY HAS LAUNCHED the new Bentayga Speed, its most powerful and dynamic SUV to date. Featuring a 4.0-litre twin-turbo V8, it delivers 641 bhp and 850 Nm, propelling it from 0-60 mph in just 3.4 seconds, with a top speed of 193 mph (310 km/h). New enhancements include SPORT

mode with sharper handling, ESC Dynamic for controlled slip angles and launch control; firsts for the Bentayga. Unique styling, optional 23-inch wheels and a refined, performance-focused interior round out this flagship SUV's bold expression of luxury and performance. Bentleymotors.com



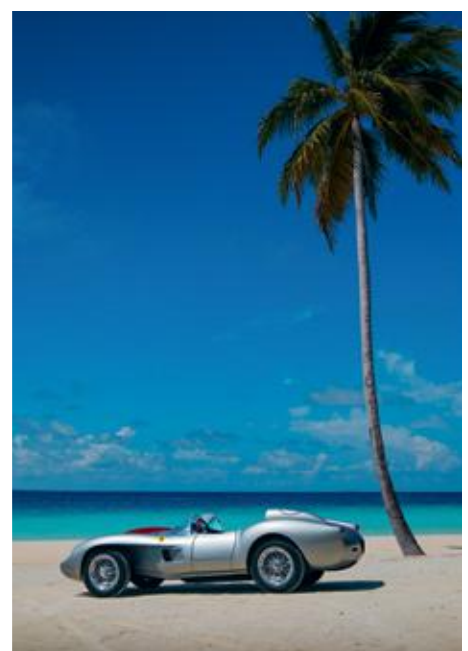
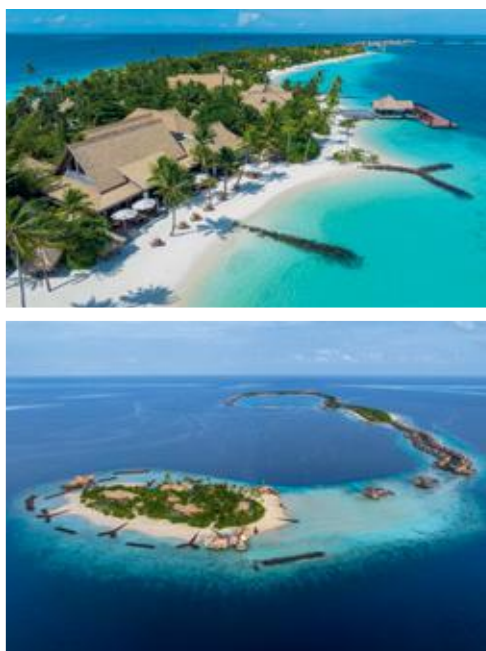
THE EMIRA HAS ARRIVED

LOTUS HAS LAUNCHED the Emira V6 SE, the latest evolution of its acclaimed mid-engine sports car. Powered by a supercharged 3.5-litre V6 producing 400 hp, it sprints from 0-62 mph in 4.3 seconds and features manual or optional automatic transmission. Priced from GBP 96,500 (US \$131,044), the V6 SE comes with exclusive styling, new damper calibration, sharper handling and refined ride comfort.

The Emira range now includes the Emira Turbo, starting at GBP 79,500 (\$108,000), with a 4-cylinder AMG-sourced engine and 8-speed DCT. Lotus also introduced new colours, upgraded cooling and improved transmission response.

A new Racing Line design option adds sporty pinstripes, colour-matched brake callipers and interior accents. Hand-built in Hethel, the Emira continues Lotus' legacy of precision engineering and driver-focused performance, combining exotic looks with everyday usability and modern refinement.

Lotuscars.com



WALDORF ASTORIA MALDIVES ITHAAFUSHI recently announced a unique collaboration with Hedley Studios, bringing a rare Ferrari Testa Rossa J (one of just 299 in existence) to its Ithaafushi Private Island.

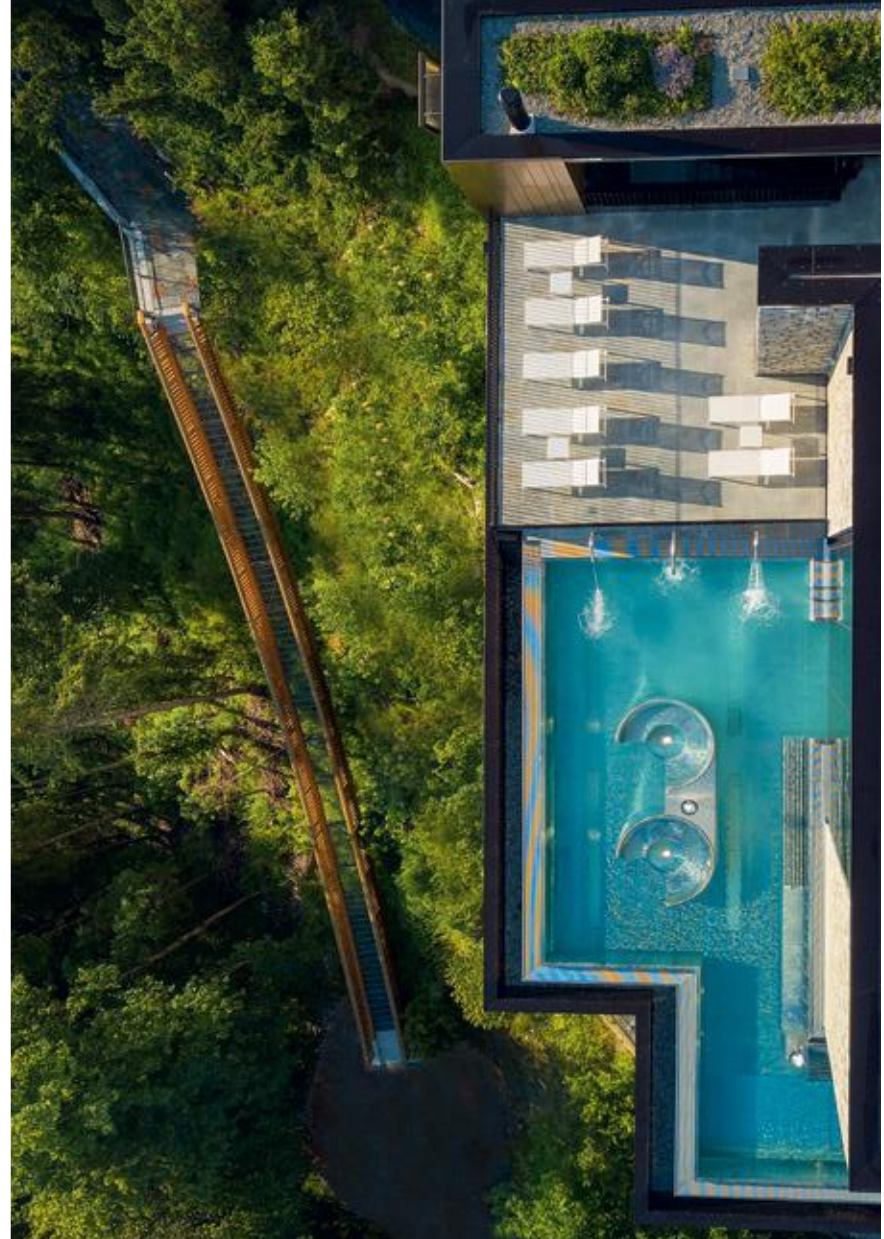
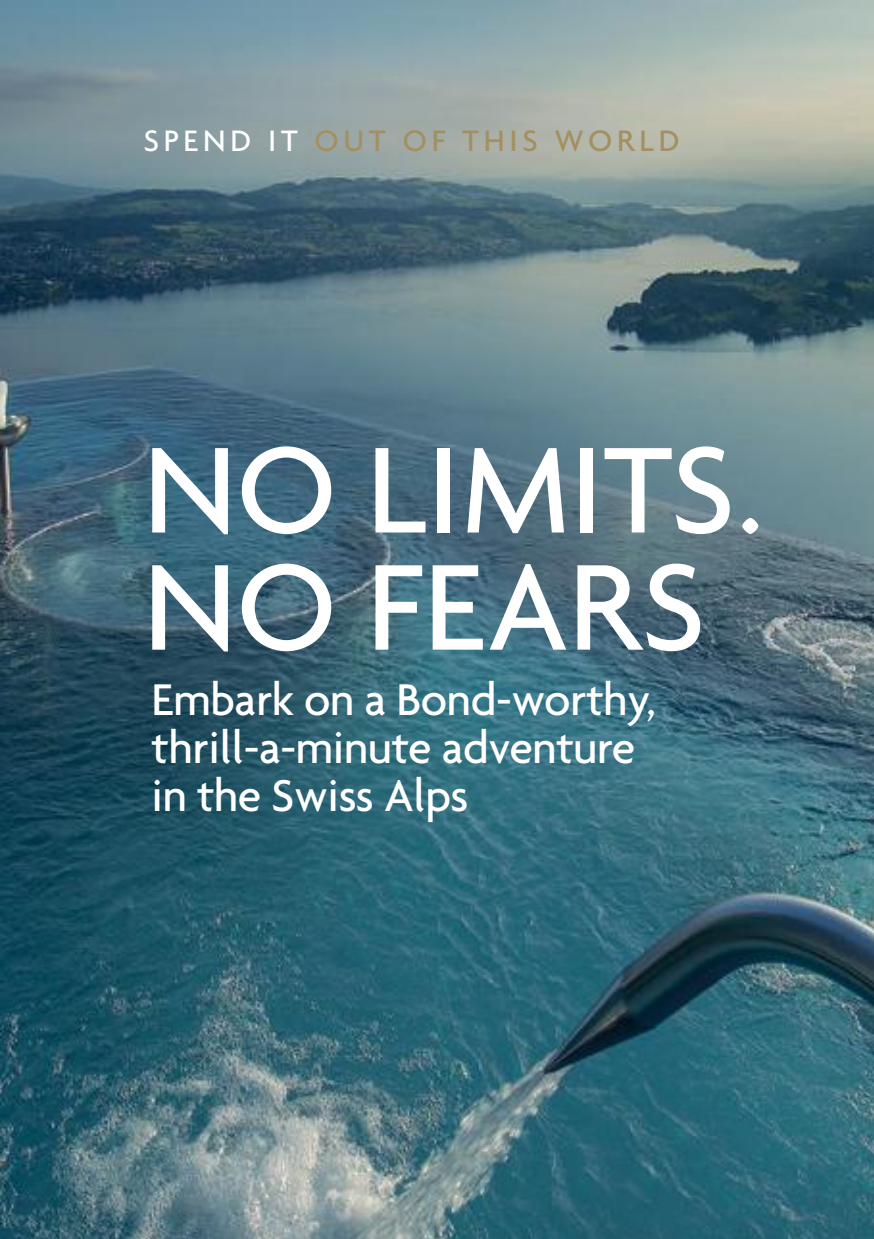
Blending luxury and design, the hand-built Silver Testa Rossa J is not just on display but available for guests to drive along the island's palm-lined paths. Reserved for private island guests, the experience includes the opportunity to custom-order their own model, starting at US \$150,000.

Throughout the year, the Ferrari will feature in exclusive events, including *The Ultimate Island Experience* and festive gifting. More than an automotive showpiece, it's a celebration of craftsmanship, legacy and escapism. "At Waldorf Astoria Maldives Ithaafushi, we believe in crafting experiences that awaken the senses," said General Manager TJ Joulak. "Welcoming the Ferrari Testa Rossa J is a gift to those who appreciate the extraordinary." Waldorfastoriomaldives.com

SPEND IT OUT OF THIS WORLD

NO LIMITS. NO FEARS

Embark on a Bond-worthy,
thrill-a-minute adventure
in the Swiss Alps



FILLED WITH GLAMOUR, adrenaline, fast cars and stunning scenery, the James Bond franchise has captured the imaginations of cinephiles the world over. This summer, Switzerland's Bürgenstock Resort Lake Lucerne is inviting all of us to embrace our inner 007 and experience the excitement and cinematic allure of the iconic franchise firsthand.

Your mission begins with a stay in a Contemporary Lake View Bay Suite, where you'll enjoy panoramic views of the staggeringly beautiful Swiss Alps and Lake Lucerne's still blue waters from every angle—the property is perched 500 metres above the shimmering expanse. Next, in typically extravagant James Bond fashion, you will enjoy an ultra-luxurious private flight over the majestic Matterhorn and surrounding mountain ranges, which are dotted with spell-binding landscapes and jaw-dropping natural wonders.

Upping the ante and adrenaline, you will then have a go at the legendary 220-metre *GoldenEye* Bungee Jump. Taking place at the historic Verzasca Dam, the world-renowned adventure experience challenges you to take a deep breath and take on the same famous jump that Pierce Brosnan's James Bond performed during the opening scene of the 1995 box office hit, *GoldenEye*.

Once the heart-pumping escapades are completed, you're then free to raise a glass to your bravery and unwind like a true secret agent with an exclusive tasting experience at the resort's Lakeview Bar & Cigar Lounge. Featuring a selection of cigars, drinks and delicious Swiss chocolates, every moment of the escape is elevated with warm service, exceptional amenities and endless access to pure and untouched nature.

Priced from CHF 12,950 (US \$15,837) per night, the *007 Experience* includes seamless transfers between Bouchs Airport and Bürgenstock Resort Lake Lucerne, and between Locarno and Verzasca for the bungee experience. [Burgenstockresort.com](https://www.burgenstockresort.com)

WORDS: HARRIET SHEPARD



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