



Glacier Lodge
Eqi, Greenland



The Ranch at Rock
Creek, Montana

THE T&C TRAVEL



La Mamounia,
Marrakech

100



Mwiba Lodge,
Tanzania

THE ULTIMATE CHECK-IN CHECKLIST



Gili Lankanfushi,
Maldives

If you're like us, just any old—or new—hotel won't do. We want to stay in a place with charm and character, excellent service, delicious food, and the kind of atmosphere that never quite lets you go. Here, published for the first time, is the *T&C* list of the 100 most wonderful hotels in the world, personally vetted by an exclusive roundtable of consummate travel insiders who regularly journey the world to discover the very best experiences out there.

They are all members of a highly exclusive club, **Wendy Perrin's Wow List**—which is harder to get into than Harvard. For more details on each, and to book with them, if you wish, go to WendyPerrin.com. Here, their specialties, in brief.

THE ROUNDTABLE

MEG AUSTIN, The Travel Society

Family holidays and adventure travel—skiing, scuba diving—in the United States, the Caribbean, South and Central America, and the South Pacific. MEG2BOOK@GMAIL.COM, 303-932-0434

MAITA BARRENECHEA, MAI 10

Exceptional trips throughout Argentina, Chile, and Uruguay. MAITA@MAI10.COM.AR, 011-54-11-4314-3390

CHERRI BRIGGS, Explore Inc.

Conservation-minded safaris in southern Africa. EXPLOREAFRICA.NET, CHERRI@EXPLOREAFRICA.NET, 888-596-6377

ALEX DATSEV, Exeter International

Itineraries in Croatia, Slovenia,

and the Balkans, including private trips along the Dalmatian Coast. EXETERINTERNATIONAL.COM, ALEX@EXETERINTERNATIONAL.COM, 800-633-1008

BRIAN DORE and MARIA GABRIELLA

LANDERS, Concierge in Umbria Food- and culture-focused holidays throughout Italy. CIUITALY.COM; INFO@CIUTRAVEL.COM, 212-769-4767

BERTIE and VICTORIA DYER, India Beat

Trips focused on architecture, yoga, photography, history, and shopping. INDIABEAT.CO.UK, 011-44-1263-588-929

JONATHAN EPSTEIN, Celebrated Experiences

Bespoke England, Ireland, and Scotland. CELEBRATEDEXPERIENCES ➔➔➔

► .COM, JONATHAN@CELEBRATEDEXPERIENCES.COM, 800-322-2403

SANDY FERGUSON, Asia Desk Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. Known for his vast network of hotel contacts and terrific guides. ASIADSK.NET, SANDY@ASIADSK.NET, 800-667-4993

ANDREA CRISDALE, IC Bellagio Ne plus ultra Italian holidays. ICBELLAGIO.COM, ICBELLAGIO@ICBELLAGIO.COM, 011-39-031-952-059

JULIAN HARRISON, Premier Tours Southern Africa, Uganda, Rwanda, and East Africa. The safari operator of choice for many A-list celebrities and Fortune 500 CEOs. PREMIERTOURS.COM, JULIANH@PREMIERTOURS.COM, 800-545-1910

GERALD HATHERLY, Abercrombie & Kent China trips for individuals as well as museum groups, movie crews, and corporations. AMBERCROMBIEKENT.COM, HATHERLY@AMBERCROMBIEKENT.COM, 011-852-2865-7818

PAUL IRVINE, Dehouche Travel Creative holidays in Brazil and most countries in South America. PAUL.IRVINE@DEHOUCHE.COM, 800-690-6899

GWEN KOZLOWSKI, Exeter International Central Europe, including Austria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, and Poland. EXETERINTERNATIONAL.COM, GWEN@EXETERINTERNATIONAL.COM, 800-633-1008

TERRY McCABE, Altour One of the top execs at the global luxury travel company. Forte: the Caribbean's best properties. ALTOUR.COM, TERRY.MCCABE@ALTOUR.COM, 201-477-7005

JANE McCRUM, In Any Event Access to insider events in the U.K., plus itineraries based on special interests: gardens, sports, history, theater. INANYEVENTTOURS.NET, JANE@INANYEVENTTOURS.NET, 011-44-207-737-0242

MARISOL MOSQUERA, Aracari Custom Peru, Bolivia, and the Galápagos for families, couples, and adventure travelers. ARACARI.COM, MARISOL@ARACARI.COM, 011-511-651-2424

ANTONIA NEUBAUER, Myths and Mountains A seasoned traveler especially knowledgeable about Bhutan and Nepal. MYTHSANDMOUNTAINS.COM, TONI@MYTHSANDMOUNTAINS.COM, 800-670-6984

ASHTON PALMER, ExpeditionTrips Small ship voyages to the Arctic, Antarctica, the Amazon, and the

remote South Pacific. EXPEDITIONTRIPS.COM, INFO@EXPEDITIONTRIPS.COM, 206-547-0700

ZACHARY RABINOR, Journey Mexico Active luxury getaways for business groups, families, and VIPs. JOURNEYMEXICO.COM, ZACH@JOURNEYMEXICO.COM, 800-513-1587

STUART RIGG, Southern Crossings Australia trips, including self-drive itineraries and Great Barrier Reef island-hopping journeys. STUART@SOUTHERN-CROSSINGS.COM

KAREN FEDORKO SEFER, Sea Song Tours Itineraries in Turkey, plus shore excursions and exclusive access events (dinners at Topkapi). SEASONG.COM, 011-90-212-292-85-55

EARL STARKEY, Sophisticated-Travel Bespoke Turkish itineraries. SOPHISTICATED-TRAVEL.COM, EARL.STARKEY@PROTRAVELINC.COM, 212-409-9587

MARC TELIO, Entrée Canada Canadian itineraries combining luxury stays and wilderness experiences. ENTREECANADA.COM, MARC@ENTREEDESTINATIONS.COM, 888-999-6556

GREG TEPPER, Exeter International The go-to Russia specialist for business executives, VIPs, and leisure travelers. EXETERINTERNATIONAL.COM, GREG@EXETERINTERNATIONAL.COM, 800-633-1008

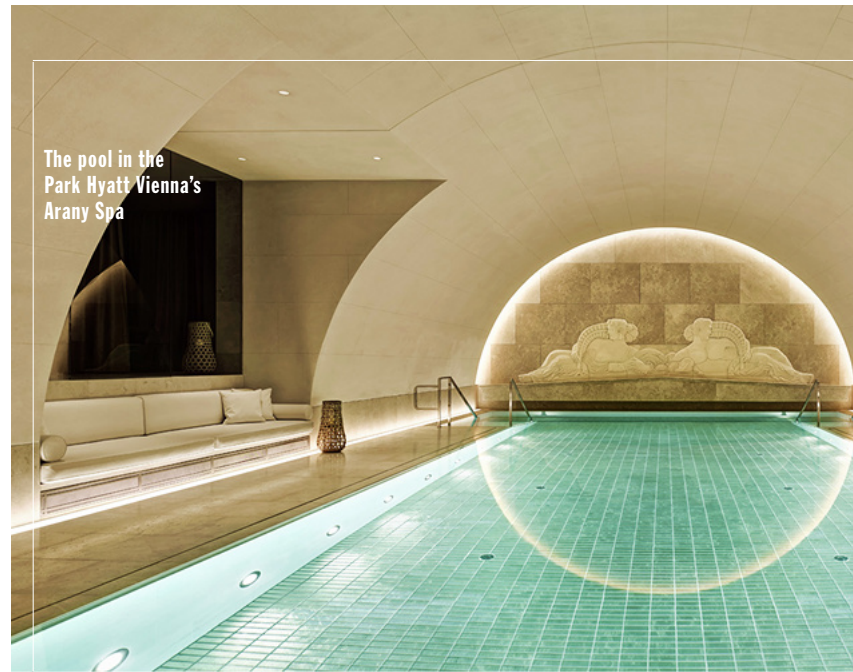
DUFF TRIMBLE, Wabi-Sabi Japan Highly customized Japan. DUFF@WABI-SABIJAPAN.COM, 647-477-1711

RICHARD BRUCE TUREN, Churchill & Turen High-end ocean and river cruises worldwide. LUXURYCRUISE RATINGS.COM, RTUREN@TRAVELTRUTH.COM, 800-445-7979

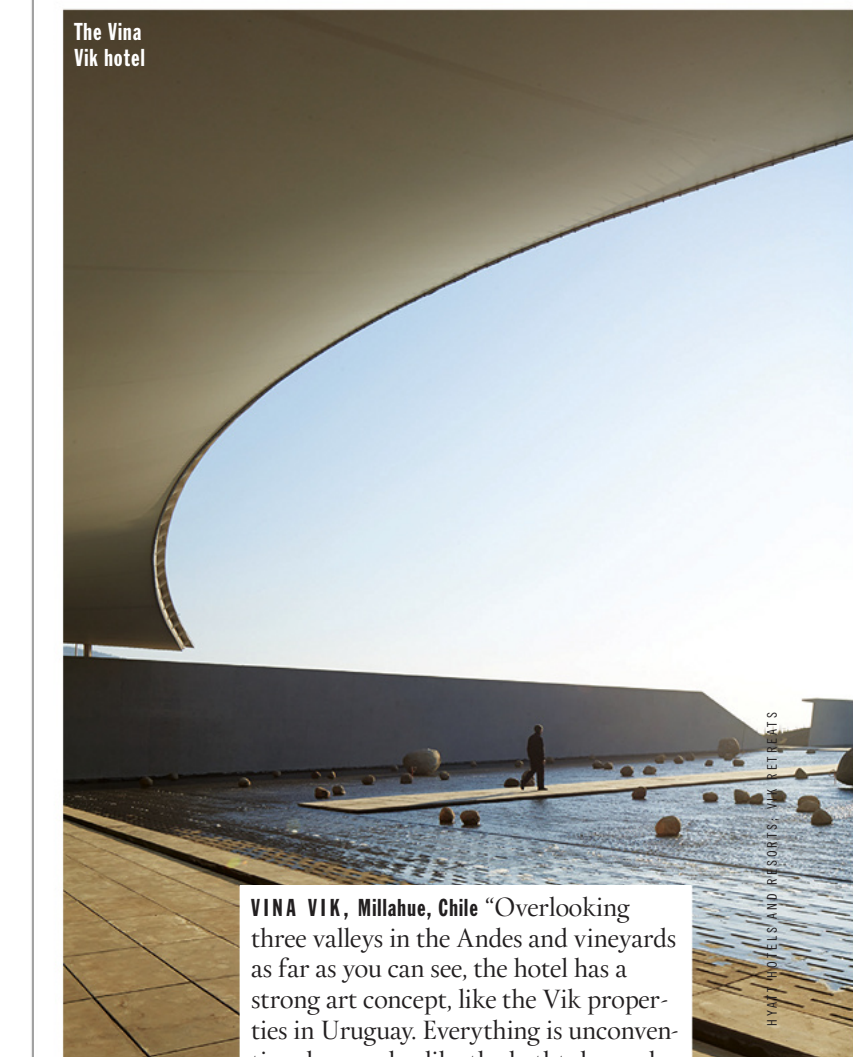
LINDSEY WALLACE, Linara Travel Indian Ocean islands, plus Dubai, Abu Dhabi, and Oman. LINARATRAVEL.COM, LINDSEY@LINARATRAVEL.COM, 208-392-1445

NINA WENNERSTEN and DAN SAPER-STEIN, Hippo Creek Safaris Eastern and southern Africa, and beach holidays in Mozambique and Zanzibar. INFO@HIPPOCREEKSAFARIS.COM, 866-930-9124

JOEL A. ZACK, Heritage Tours Private Travel Culturally focused trips in Morocco, Spain, Portugal, Turkey, and South Africa. HTPRIVATETRAVEL.COM, JOEL@HTPRIVATETRAVEL.COM, 800-378-4555



The pool in the Park Hyatt Vienna's Arany Spa



The Vina Vik hotel

VINA VIK, Millahue, Chile "Overlooking three valleys in the Andes and vineyards as far as you can see, the hotel has a strong art concept, like the Vik properties in Uruguay. Everything is unconventional as can be, like the bathtubs made by Uruguayan canoe builders. And then there's the winery itself, an architectural wonder." FROM \$1,200, ALL-INCLUSIVE, VIKHOTELS.COM *Maita Barrenechea, MAI 10*

NEW HOTELS



PARK HYATT VIENNA, Austria “It’s got the perfect location (right in the Goldenes Quartier), huge rooms, and the best hotel pool in the city.” FROM \$580, VIENNA.PARK.HYATT.COM *Gwen Kozlowski, Exeter International*

AMILLA FUSHI, Maldives “An ultraluxurious resort seems to open every few months in the Maldives, and the latest and greatest is Amilla Fushi, which has huge villas and overwater bungalows, each with a pool. There’s exceptional snorkeling and diving at the nearby reef, and in summer there’s a large concentration of manta rays in nearby Hanifaru Bay.” FROM \$1,250, AMILLA.MV *Lindsey Wallace, Linara Travel*



CHILTERN FIREHOUSE, London “I love it for its neo-Gothic architecture, the cozy rooms (with working fireplaces and hot water bottles in the beds), real keys with tassels, a perfect breakfast, and the buzzing restaurant. For me it’s all about the details, and this place gets them right.” FROM \$839, CHILTERNFIREHOUSE.COM *M.B.*



LA RESERVE, Paris “The city is flooded with swanky new hotels, not to mention the reopening of grandes dames like the Crillon, but my favorite is the more intimate but no less fabulous and romantic La Réserve. It’s big enough for a lovely restaurant, a little spa, even an indoor pool, and it’s just around the corner from the boutiques on Rue du Faubourg St.-Honoré.” FROM \$833, LARESERVE-PARIS.COM *Terry McCabe, Altour*



ASHFORD CASTLE, County Mayo, Ireland “One of the most famous medieval castles turned hotels, with its fantastic art and antiques, just got a top-to-bottom renovation, with a new spa, cinema, and cigar terrace. The best hotel in Ireland.” FROM \$424, ASHFORDCASTLE.COM *Jonathan Epstein, Celebrated Experiences*



SUBLIME COMPORTA, Portugal “The cutting-edge design of the place is worth a trip, but there’s the equally fantastic location: the up-and-coming Comporta area—close to the beach, the medieval town of Evora, and several wine estates.” FROM \$216, SUBLIMECOMPORTA.PT *Joel A. Zack, Heritage Tours Private Travel*



FOUR SEASONS HOTEL, Moscow “The Stalinist Hotel Moskva has reemerged as an ambitiously renovated Four Seasons, with the best location in town, steps from Red Square and the Bolshoi Theatre. Huge rooms, fun bar, stunning spa.” FROM \$580, FOURSEASONS.COM/MOSCOW *Greg Tepper, Exeter International*



HOANIB SKELETON COAST CAMP, Namibia “An unexpectedly elegant new safari camp in Namibia’s

rugged Kaokoveld region, where elephants and lions roam the vast plains. It’s also the only property for hundreds of miles around.” TENTS FROM \$1,018, ALL-INCLUSIVE, WILDERNESS-SAFARIS.COM *Julian Harrison, Premier Tours*



MONT ROCHELLE, Franschhoek, South Africa “Richard Branson’s chic makeover of a small hotel, in this famously gorgeous wine region, has 22 lovely rooms, most with stunning views of the vineyard and mountains beyond.” FROM \$355, VIRGINLIMITEDITION.COM *Cherri Briggs, Explore Inc.*



MWIBA LODGE, Serengeti, Tanzania “High up on a river gorge in the Serengeti Plains, with eight tented rooms that disappear into the landscape. Incredible architecture throughout, including a pool built on a cliff-top where the views stretch into infinity. Activities include off-road game drives day and night. December through April, you’re in the perfect spot to see migrating wildebeest herds.” FROM \$2,500 (FOR TWO), LEGENDARYEXPEDITIONS.COM *Nina Wennersten and Dan Saperstein, Hippo Creek Safaris*



LINKWASHA CAMP, Zimbabwe “The first five-star tented camp in Hwange, the country’s largest national park, has an unbeatable setting in an area that teems with wildlife year-round. In the

TIM CLINGER (CHILTERN FIREHOUSE); ASHFORD CASTLE; WILDERNESS SAFARIS; VIRGIN LIMITED EDITION (MONT ROCHELLE); PETER VITALE (FOUR SEASONS MOSCOW); AMILLA FUSHI; BAA ATOLL, MALDIVES; LA RESERVE PARIS; NELSON GARRIDO (SUBLIME COMPORTA)



The Treehouse at Amilla Fushi

dry months (May through September) hundreds of elephants hang out at a watering hole next to the camp—mind-blowing!”

FROM \$1,444 (FOR TWO), WILDERNESS-SAFARIS.COM/CAMPS/LINKWASHA-CAMP *C.B.*



SUJAN RAJMAHAL PALACE, Jaipur, India “An out-of-this-world restoration by the queen mother of Jaipur, Padmini Devi, and her favorite designer, Adil Ahmad. From funky wallpaper designs to intricately patterned fabrics, each room is more dazzling than the next.” FROM \$981, SUJAN LUXURY.COM *Bertie and Victoria Dyer, India Beat*



RITZ-CARLTON, Kyoto “The city was starved for luxury hotels before this opened, yet it’s anything but a bland Western hotel. The design—an artful combination of traditional and modern Japanese elements—is as excellent as the location: right on the banks of the Kamogawa River, and a short walk from the main restaurant and entertainment area. A game changer for Kyoto.” FROM \$587, RITZCARLTON.COM *Duff Trimble, Wabi-Sabi Japan*



AMAN, Tokyo “Aman’s first urban property looks and feels like a ryokan—with traditional Japanese artwork—but it’s set in a modern, minimalist building in the heart of Tokyo. It has the best views of any hotel in the city, and the best swimming pool possibly anywhere in the world.” FROM \$600, AMAN.COM *D.T.*

ROMANTIC BEACH RESORTS



AMAN SVETI STEFAN, Montenegro “It isn’t the beach that draws people here, it’s the chance to stay in a 15th-century island fishing village, masterfully restored as only Aman can do it. I love the new spa complex, which has a private beach in front of it. *So romantic.*” FROM \$826, AMANRESORTS.COM *G.T.*



D-HOTEL MARIS, Turkey “A hotel this size, with nearly 200 rooms, may not be everyone’s idea of romance, but it’s in a secluded spot—with extraordinary sea views from everywhere—and spread out enough that you can always find a quiet corner. There are five private, idyllic beaches to choose from (two don’t allow young kids), and I can’t think of a water sport that isn’t offered.” FROM \$379, DHOTEL.COM.TR *Earl Starkey, Sophisticated-Travel*



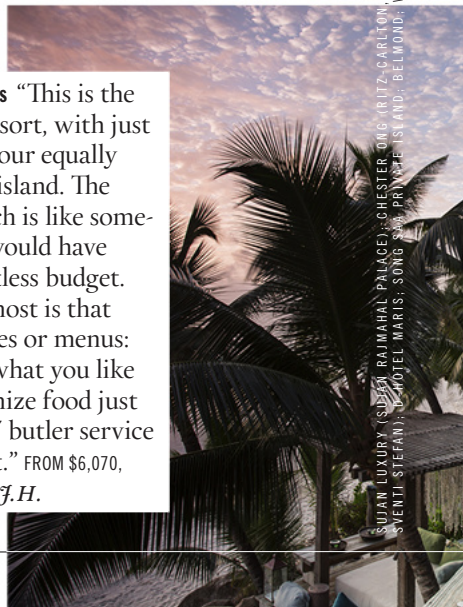
HOTEL ESENCIA, Mexico “The beach is spectacular, and the hotel is more secluded than almost any other on the Riviera Maya, even though it’s just 25 minutes from Tulum. Now under new ownership and management, it’s on track to be the very best and most intimate superluxury resort in the area.” FROM \$698, HOTELESENCIA.COM *Zachary Rabinor, Journey Mexico*

SONG SAA, Cambodia “The country’s first luxury private island resort—located in the practically undiscovered blue waters of the Koh Rong Archipelago—is a marvelous place for a honeymoon, or to just drop out of the world.” FROM \$1,840, ALL-INCLUSIVE, SONGSAA.COM *Antonia Neubauer, Myths and Mountains*



The pool at Belmond Hotel Splendido

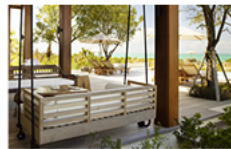
NORTH ISLAND, Seychelles “This is the ultimate private island resort, with just 11 accommodations and four equally beautiful beaches on the island. The villas are enormous—each is like something Robinson Crusoe would have built if he had had a limitless budget. One of the things I like most is that there are no set meal times or menus: You simply tell the chef what you like to eat, and he will customize food just for you. There’s also 24/7 butler service from your villa attendant.” FROM \$6,070, ALL-INCLUSIVE, NORTH-ISLAND.COM *J.H.*



SUJAN LUXURY (SUJAN RAJMAHAL PALACE); CHESTER; DUFF TRIMBLE; RITZ-CARLTON, KYOTO; AMAN RESORTS (AMAN SVETI STEFAN); D-HOTEL MARIS; SONG SAA; PRIVATE ISLAND; BELMOND; WILDERNESS SAFARIS (WORTH)



A picnic on Koh Rong Island



PARROT CAY, Turks and Caicos “A Zen-like place that sits not only on its own island but on one of the best beaches in the Caribbean—really, in the world. Plus, a great yoga program, an Asian-inspired spa, and delicious, healthy food. The villas and beach houses (with plunge pools and hammocks) are steps from the sea. The best part: Parrot Cay is a nonstop flight (plus a 45-minute boat ride) from a bunch of U.S. cities. Eden on your doorstep.” FROM \$550, COMOHOTELS.COM *T.M.*



BARAZA RESORT & SPA, Zanzibar “It has just 30 rooms, all villas that look like little Arabian palaces. Meals and most drinks are included, but in contrast to other all-inclusive resorts, the food is terrific. Best of all, it’s on the island’s most gorgeous stretch of beach. Perfection.” FROM \$877, BARAZA-ZANZIBAR.COM *N.W. and D.S.*



NKWICHI LODGE, Mozambique “Mainland Africa’s most romantic beach, on the shores of Lake Malawi, has white powder sand, crystal clear water, and no crocs! There are lots of hidden coves for private, lazy afternoons in the sun. Some of the five chalets and private houses have luxurious baths built right into the rocks.” FROM \$660, INCLUDING ALL MEALS, NKWICHI.COM *C.B.*



AMANPULO, Philippines “It’s tropical paradise on a private island, only an hour’s flight from Manila by charter plane. Swimming, snorkeling, diving, and fishing are the main draw, but the spa and fitness center have enough offerings to keep you occupied for a week.” FROM \$1,100, AMANRESORTS.COM *Richard Bruce Turen, Churchill & Turen*



BEDARRA, Great Barrier Reef “This wonderfully relaxed all-inclusive property caters to

just 16 guests, max (no kids), and feels more like a private house than a resort. Activities include dive trips and fishing excursions, but nothing is more romantic than a candlelight dinner on one of the private beaches.” FROM \$869, BEDARRA.COM.AU *Stuart Rigg, Southern Crossings*



GILI LANKANFUSHI, Maldives “With its stylish thatch-roof bungalows, underground wine cellar, organic vegetable garden, and incomparable service, Gili Lankanfushi remains the gold standard of barefoot luxury.” FROM \$1,839, INCLUDING BREAKFAST, GILILANKANFUSHI.COM *L.W.*



LAUCALA ISLAND, Fiji “The late Malcolm Forbes’s private island is 3,500 acres but has only 25 guest villas, each with its own infinity pool. There’s an 18-hole golf course, a spa, five restaurants, and a staff that caters to every whim. Few places are as heart-stoppingly beautiful, or decadent.” FROM \$4,600, INCLUDING MEALS, HOUSE WINES, AND SPIRITS, LAUCALA.COM *T.M.*



ELSEWHERE, Goa, India “Four simply furnished cottages on the best beach in the area, with little to do except relax and enjoy. Nearby is one of the chicest parts of Goa, with cool beach boutiques (including Jade Jagger’s) and our favorite restaurant in the area, the always hip La Plage.” FROM \$185, ASEASCAPE.COM *B. and V.D.*



BELMOND HOTEL SPLENDIDO, Portofino, Italy “It’s on a hill overlooking Portofino’s glittering harbor, so the views are breathtaking, as are the rooms and gardens. As for the staff, they couldn’t be more gracious. You could spend all day hiking in Cinque Terre and then pitch up on the terrace for an aperitif not looking your best, yet still feel extremely welcome.” FROM \$624, BELMOND.COM *Andrea Grisdale, IC Bellagio*



VILA SEREIA, Brazil “You’ll find a rustic peace on the island of Boipeba, off the coast of Salvador, and this is one of the few hotels in Brazil where the bungalows are right on the sand. Expect to be totally pampered by the owner. From Salvador you can take public transport or a taxi, speed boat, or plane.” FROM \$114, ILHABOIBEBA.ORG *Paul Irvine, Dehouche Travel*



A thatched villa at North Island

COMO HOTELS AND RESORTS (PARROT CAY); BARAZA RESORT AND SPA (ZANZIBAR); BELMOND HOTEL SPLENDIDO (PORTOFINO); GILI LANKANFUSHI (MALDIVES); LAUCALA ISLAND (FIJI); NKWICHI LODGE (MOZAMBIQUE); VILA SEREIA (BOIPEBA); AMANPULO (PHILIPPINES)

CLASSIC HOTELS



HOTEL SACHER, Vienna “It has history, charm, and class in spades. The Gürtler family, who have owned the hotel since the 1930s, are all still very hands-on. The entire property was recently renovated, but they’ve managed to keep the historic feel. And the Blaue Bar is one of the best spots in all of Vienna.” FROM \$566, SACHER.COM *G.K.*



ESPLANADE ZAGREB, Croatia “One of Europe’s great luxury hotels. It was built in the 1920s for the passengers from the Orient Express, and it still radiates the glamour of the Art Deco age.” FROM \$163, ESPLANADE.HR *Alex Datsev, Exeter International*



CLARIDGE'S, London “It’s very British and very elegant. There’s one story about the hotel that I just love. Somebody calls the front desk and asks to speak to the king. The desk clerk says, ‘Which king, sir? We have three staying here at the moment.’ And they did!” FROM \$782, CLARIDGES.COM.UK *Jane McCrum, In Any Event*

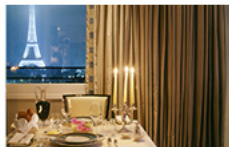


THE CONNAUGHT, London “It has buckets of character and charm, starting with its magical

location on Carlos Place. Then there’s its flawless service, classic architecture, famous cocktail bar, great high tea, hidden Aman spa (with a pool!), and the Eagle’s Lodge suite—one of my favorite city suites in the world.” FROM \$897, THE-CONNAUGHT.CO.UK *M.B.*



GRAND-HOTEL DU CAP FERRAT, France “There’s an aura to this place, the ne plus ultra of seaside resorts, that has never faded. But it has been notoriously unfriendly over the years. Now that it’s part of the Four Seasons group, that should change.” FROM \$327, FOURSEASONS.COM/CAPFERRAT *T.M.*



HOTEL PLAZA ATHENE, Paris “If you get a room with a balcony and a view of the Eiffel Tower, you feel as if you could almost touch it. I adore the Alain Ducasse restaurant overlooking the Tuileries, and the breakfast, a proper sit-down affair with feather-light croissants and the most delicious coffee ever.” FROM \$868, DORCHESTERCOLLECTION.COM *J.M.*

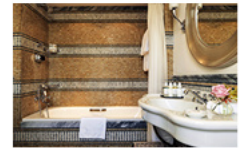


GRAND HOTEL TREMEZZO, Lake Como “It’s a classic dating from 1910 and smack on the lake. Greta Garbo stayed in Room 113. But the decor has been updated—you’re not staying in a dried-up fossil.” FROM \$459, GRANDHOTELTREMEZZO.COM. *Brian Dore and Maria Gabriella Landers, Concierge in Umbria*



LE SIRENUSE, Positano, Italy “The hotel just ticks every box. It’s a lovely size, and it has a prime location in the heart of Positano, with everything you want on your doorstep. The owner is extremely warm and welcoming, the rooms are beautiful, the pieces of art precious, and stories about the hotel’s colorful history could fill a library.

Everyone should experience it at least once in a lifetime.” FROM \$415, SIRENUSE.IT *A.G.*



HOTEL DE RUSSIE, Rome “It has the perfect location, near the Spanish Steps, exemplary service, and some of Rome’s best shopping, just moments away.” FROM \$952, ROCCOFORTEHOTELS.COM/HOTEL-DE-RUSSIE *R.B.T.*



The living room of a riad within the gardens of La Mamounia

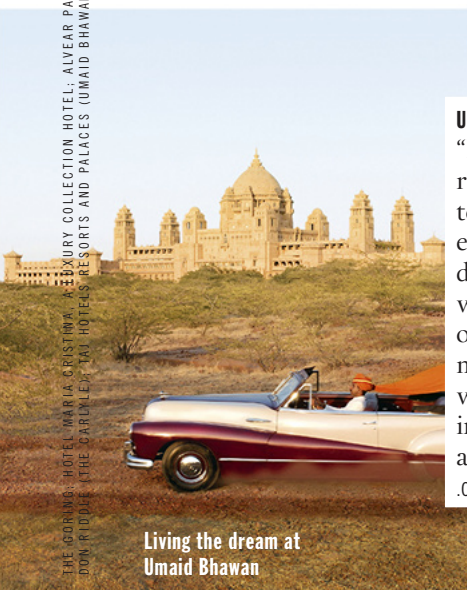
LA MAMOUNIA, Marrakech “It exudes a sense of place like almost nowhere else I have ever been. As you sit on your terrace, listening to the birdsong and looking at the palm and orange trees in the garden and the snowcapped Atlas Mountains just beyond, it makes you want to move to Marrakech.” FROM \$578, MAMOUNIA.COM *J.Z.*

HOTEL SACHER WIEN; ESPLANADE ZAGREB HOTEL ARCHIVE; MAYBOURNE HOTEL GROUP (CLARIDGE'S); THE CONNAUGHT; GRAND HOTEL TREMEZZO LAKE COMO; CHRISTOPH KICHERER (HOTEL PLAZA ATHENE); MANUEL ZUBLENA (HOTEL DU CAP FERRAT); YDO SOL IMAGES (LE SIRENUSE); ROCCO FORTE HOTELS (HOTEL DE RUSSIE); LA MAMOUNIA



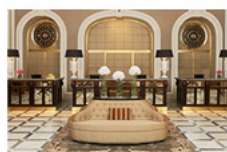
A corridor at the Goring

THE GORING, London “A masterpiece that is still family-owned. The access to the British Museum is just so much topping on the treacle tart.” FROM \$536, THEGORING.COM *R.B.T.*



Living the dream at Umaid Bhawan

UMAID BHAWAN PALACE, Jodhpur “It was commissioned by Maharaja Umaid Singh-ji in the 1920s to give the people of Jodhpur employment during a period of drought and famine. When it was finished, in the 1940s, it was one of the world’s largest and most opulent private residences, with 26 acres of gardens. Staying here is an absolute dream and privilege.” FROM \$1,543, TAJHOTELS.COM *B. and V.D.*



HOTEL MARIA CRISTINA, San Sebastian, Spain “Opened in 1912, it feels historic and grand, but it was redone a few years ago, so there’s also a vibrancy to the place. Anyone who is anyone stays here during the annual film festival.” FROM \$697, HOTELMARIACRISTINA.COM *J.Z.*



PERA PALACE HOTEL JUMEIRAH, Istanbul “The original luxury hotel in Istanbul—it dates back to 1892—was renovated a few years back and is classier than ever. The views of the Golden Horn are magical, and it’s ideally located, in the Beyoglu district, within walking distance of great restaurants and nightspots.” FROM \$292, JUMEIRAH.COM *E.S.*



FOUR SEASONS SULTANAHMET, Istanbul “Istanbul’s famous neo-classical prison turned hotel is still the best address in the Old City. It has lovely Ottoman details and breathtaking views of Hagia Sophia from the rooftop terrace and several suites. All the major sites, including Topkapi Palace and the Blue Mosque, are just a few minutes’ walk.” FROM \$495, FOURSEASONS.COM *Karen Fedorko Sefer, Sea Song Tours*



THE CARLYLE, New York “A timeless landmark with so much history and tradition, and the

Bemelmans Bar. Plus, Woody Allen sometimes plays with his jazz band.” FROM \$720, ROSEWOODHOTELS.COM *M.B.*



ALVEAR PALACE, Buenos Aires “It’s Buenos Aires Belle Epoque preserved, with an ever-fashionable lobby bar and perfect butlers.” FROM \$420, ALVEARPALACE.COM *M.B.*



PENINSULA HONG KONG “It may be almost 100 years old, but the Peninsula continues to outdo itself. The service, food, bar, and attention to detail are all second to none. It’s the best hotel in the world, in my opinion.” FROM \$449, PENINSULA.COM *Gerald Hatherly, Abercrombie & Kent*



LE BRISTOL, Paris “It’s quintessential Parisian elegance, the kind of hotel you stay in during your first dream set in the city.” FROM \$750, LEBRISTOLPARIS.COM *R.B.T.*



SOFITEL METROPOLE, Hanoi “Exquisitely renovated, it has the absolute best location, in the French Quarter; it radiates Old World European grandeur; and it’s part of the city’s history. Don’t miss the historical tour every evening—it visits the bomb shelter under the bar!” FROM \$216, SOFITEL.COM *Sandy Ferguson, Asia Desk*

THE GORING: HOTEL MARIA CRISTINA; ALVEAR PALACE HOTEL; PENINSULA HONG KONG; LE BRISTOL PARIS; DAVAR DINE ISOFIT; LEGEND METROPOLE HANOI; DON RIDDLE; THE CARLYLE; FOUR SEASONS SULTANAHMET; PERA PALACE HOTEL JUMEIRAH

LUXURY IN THE WILD

The living room at Zarafa Dhow



ZARAFI DHOW SUITES, Selinda Reserve, Botswana “The two-year-old Zarafa Camp is already one of the finest camps in Botswana, but the property’s two suites, which are less than a 10-minute drive away, are a cut above. The Dhow Suites are actually one huge tent, with a living room and two large bedrooms, furnished with leather sofas, Persian carpets, and copper bathtubs, all meant to evoke the 1920s luxury safari. What’s outside is just as magical: the Zibadianja Lagoon, where animals big and small come to linger. This is the African safari fantasy realized.” FROM \$6,360, GREATPLAINS CONSERVATION.COM/ZARAFI-DHOW-SUITES *N.W. and D.S.*



SAN LORENZO MOUNTAIN LODGE, South Tyrol, Italy “A few years ago the former CEO of Escada and his wife bought a 16th-century hunting lodge on 40 acres in the heart of the Dolomites, high above a gorgeous valley. They restored every inch of it using local materials and styles, and turned it into a chic four-bedroom chalet with a great sense of place. Wintertime here is sublime, but if you come in the warmer months you can take advantage of the 18-hole golf course.” FROM \$2,664, SANLORENZO MOUNTAINLODGE.COM *A.G.*



GLACIER LODGE EQI, Greenland “As remote as can be—accessible only by a five-hour boat ride. Accommodations are in modern, minimalist cabins overlooking a fjord and a calving glacier. This isn’t luxury, but being so close to raw beauty is glorious!” FROM \$292, GLACIERLODGEEQI.COM *M.B.*



GRAND HOTEL KEMPINSKI HIGH TATRAS, Slovakia “Though only two hours from Krakow (three from Bratislava), this lakeside Habsburg-era building, set high in the Slovakian mountains, feels like another world. You can go walking, hiking, or skiing in winter; visit the nearby UNESCO towns, or just do nothing. The perfect get-away-from-it-all place.” FROM \$158, KEMPINSKI.COM *G.K.*



THE THREE CHIMNEYS, Isle of Skye, Scotland “One of the best restaurants in Scotland doubles as an elegant small inn. It’s in the middle of nowhere, on a seaside road you’ll swear is headed straight to America, but a seafood feast and a divine room wait for you at the end of the journey.” FROM \$537, THREECHIMNEYS.CO.UK *J.M.*



BOUTIQUE HOTEL QUINTA CHANABNAL, Palenque, Mexico “The incredible archaeological site of Palenque needed a good hotel, and this little gem is it, eight rooms hidden in the jungle just a few miles from the ruins. The Italian-German owner, an authority on Mayan culture, modeled it after a royal residence, complete with a massive palapa thatch roof and traditional sweat bath. The pool is very pleasant, and the food is excellent.” FROM \$177, QUINTACHANABNAL.COM *Z.R.*



ESTANCIA RINCON DEL SOCORRO, Argentina “My favorite secluded wildlife lodge in South America, it’s in the underrated Esteros del Iberá wetlands in northeastern Argentina, accessible by light aircraft (two hours from Iguazu, one from Posadas), or by driving (off-road) six hours. A back-of-beyond location and luxurious accommodations in a beautiful ranch home.” FROM \$220, RINCONDELSOCORRO.COM/EN/ *P.I.*



The boatlike exterior of the Fogo Island Inn

FOGO ISLAND INN, Newfoundland “Said to be far away from far away, Fogo Island requires two flights and a ferry to reach, and the landscape is all craggy rocks and barren coastline. But I don’t know anyone who has been there who hasn’t fallen deeply in love with the inn, whose purpose is to revive the economy of this former fishing village and preserve its traditions. There are little winks at the island’s heritage everywhere, and the handcrafted furniture is a modern riff on the island’s boatbuilding and woodworking past.” FROM \$671, FOGOISLANDINN.CA *Marc Telio, Entrée Canada*



AHILYA FORT, India “To reach Ahilya Fort, an 18th-century fortress turned extraordinary small hotel on the banks of the vast Narmada River, you need to fly to Indore, then drive 59 miles. But it’s worth the trouble. This place, right next to an ancient temple, has just 13 rooms, including a large tent, all surrounded by shady courtyards and pretty gardens.” FROM \$287, AHILYAFORT.COM *B. and V.D.*



MAHUA KOTHI AND BANJAAR TOLA, India “The best place to see India’s most majestic tigers are in Bandhavgarh and Kanha National Parks, in the state of Madhya Pradesh. Our two favorite camps there are very different from each other. Mahua Kothi is more old-fashioned, Banjaar Tola more modern, but both spoil you rotten, and you’re practically guaranteed to see tigers on

game drives at either one. This is our idea of heaven.” FROM \$433, TAJSAFARIS.COM *B. and V.D.*



GALAPAGOS SAFARI CAMP, Ecuador “One of the first luxury eco-camps in the Galápagos, it accommodates only 24 guests and is built sustainably in the highlands on the island of Santa Cruz. You might wake up to find a 100-year-old giant tortoise slumbering next to your tent.” FROM \$695, GALAPAGOSSAFARICAMP.COM *A.N.*



WILDWATERS LODGE, Uganda “On an island in the middle of the Nile, this lodge has 10 chalets, with six perched above the rapids—a great spot for spying on the wildlife of the Wildwaters Reserve. You’ll see throngs of river otters and giant monitor lizards, as well as hundreds of birds. Rafting on the Nile is the main event,

but nearby you can also go quad biking, bungee jumping, or horseback riding. This is not your typical African safari.” FROM \$230, WILD-UGANDA.COM *C.B.*



TSWALU KALAHARI RESERVE, South Africa “Surrounded by 220,000 acres of monumental mountains and wilderness in the heart of the Kalahari Desert, this is one of the largest privately owned conservation areas in Africa. Spend the days on game drives or bush walks, riding horses, and visiting archaeological sites. At sunset the staff sets up lanterns on the sand dunes, just in time for drinks under that immense sky.” FROM \$846, TSWALU.COM *J.H.*



SONGTSAM LODGES, Yunnan, China “A series of exquisite eight- to 10-room lodges surrounded by high mountain valleys, alpine meadows, and sacred

mountains, each is furnished with Tibetan furniture, textiles, and art. There’s a good restaurant that uses locally grown produce. A truly wonderful mountain experience.” FROM \$154, SONGTSAM.COM *G.H.*



WOLWEDANS BOULDERS CAMP, Namibia “In the Namib desert of southern Namibia, an area surrounded by massive boulder outcrops and vast open spaces, this is a luxe base to return to after your days of walking safaris, treading the ancient hunting grounds of the Bushmen.” FROM \$481, WOLWEDANS.COM *C.B.*



MIKENO LODGE, Democratic Republic of the Congo “This jewel within Virunga National Park has a dozen spacious, luxurious bungalows, each with beautiful views of the Rift Valley and the Nyiragongo and Mikeno volcanoes.” FROM \$244, VISITVIRUNGA.ORG *C.B.*

ALEX FRADKIN (FOGO ISLAND INN); TAJ HOTELS RESORTS AND PALACES (MAHUA KOTHI, BANJAAR TOLA); AHILYA FORT; SONGTSAM LODGE; TSWALU KALAHARI RESERVE; WILDWATERS LODGE; WOLWEDANS; LUANNE CAUD (MIKENO LODGE); GALAPAGOS SAFARI CAMP

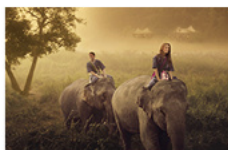


Tierra Patagonia's Uma Spa

TIERRA PATAGONIA HOTEL & SPA, Chile “An ultramodern hideaway in one of the planet’s most spectacular landscapes, at the eastern edge of Torres del Paine National Park. James Bond would look right at home at the bar.” FROM \$2,250, TIERRAHOTELS.COM
Ashton Palmer, ExpeditionTrips



THE BRANDO, French Polynesia “We’ve all heard about it, but hardly anyone ever got to see Marlon Brando’s legendary hideaway, and now that we have, it’s even better than we imagined. Brando bought a string of 12 islets; the new resort is on one of them, with 35 humongous beach villas surrounded by absolutely nothing but a translucent sea. It’s the place for anyone looking for absolute privacy, but unlike other luxury hideouts, this one is relatively accessible, especially from the West Coast.” FROM \$2,623, THEBRANDO.COM *T.M.*



FOUR SEASONS TENTED CAMP, Golden Triangle, Thailand “The tents here are beautifully appointed and suggest a luxe version of Dr. Livingstone—meets—Henry Stanley: all teak wood and colonial charm. Tour the surrounding area on an elephant’s back.” FROM \$1,959, FOURSEASONS.COM *G.H.*



AMANKORA, Bhutan “Visitors usually travel among the five Amankora lodges, which are built high in the Himalayas. Each one takes full advantage of its spectacular mountain setting. These are remarkable properties that make you think about who you are and what you can be.” FROM \$930, AMANRESORTS.COM *R.B.T.*



MINARET STATION, New Zealand “A luxury lodge with chalets set in a glacial valley accessible only by helicopter, allowing outdoor

enthusiasts remarkable access to the splendor of New Zealand’s Southern Alps.” FROM \$1,319, MINARETSTATION.COM *R.B.T.*



MUANG LA RESORT, Laos “A six-hour drive from Luang Prabang, this is a charming ecolodge that was built among the mists of the ancient forest, next to a natural hot spring.” FROM \$280, MUANGLA.COM/EN *S.F.*



BERKELEY RIVER LODGE, Kimberley Coast, Australia “Accessible only by a scenic flight from Darwin



Outdoor dining at Dar Ahlam

DAR AHLAM, Skoura Oasis, Morocco “You’re in a rebuilt kasbah in a Saharan oasis a five-hour drive from Marrakech, yet you’re in the lap of bespoke luxury, each experience custom-made. Fabulous excursions include a night in a desert camp in the dunes. You’ll never want to leave.” FROM \$537, MAISONDESREVES.COM *J.Z.*

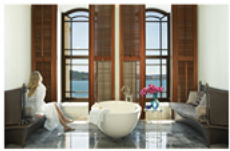
or Kununurra, the lodge has elegant guest villas with uninterrupted vistas of the Timor Sea, the Berkeley River, and the rugged Australian Outback. Creature comforts can include gourmet meals tailored to suit individual tastes.” FROM \$600, BERKELEYRIVER.COM.AU *S.R.*



SIX SENSES LAAMU, Maldives “The only resort in the Laamu Atoll, Six Senses is an amazing place for snorkeling and diving. If you want utterly private and remote, the property has its own deserted island a 30-minute boat ride away, which might be the most beautiful spot in the Indian Ocean.” FROM \$856, SIXSENSES.COM *L.W.*

TIERRA HOTELS (TIERRA PATAGONIA); RELAIS & CHATEAUX (DAR AHLAM); THE BRANDO; MINARET STATION; SIX SENSES; HOTELS RESORTS SPAS; MUANG LA RESORT; AMAN RESORTS (AMANKORA); FOUR SEASONS TENTED CAMP; BERKELEY RIVER LODGE

CITY SUITES



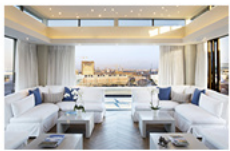
ATIK PASHA SUITE, FOUR SEASONS BOSPHORUS, Istanbul “A modern-day Ottoman palace: 15-foot ceilings, a private hammam, and spectacular views of the Bosphorus.” FROM \$25,337, FOURSEASONS.COM/BOSPHORUS *K.F.S.*



SYDNEY SUITE, PARK HYATT, Sydney “Nearly 3,900 square feet overlooking Sydney Harbor, with a state-of-the-art kitchen, steam room, and sauna. And the views! Even the \$7,400 music-playing toilet has one.” FROM \$12,577, SYDNEY.PARK.HYATT.COM *S.R.*

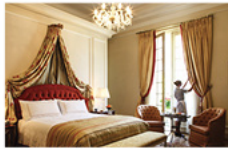


PRESIDENTIAL SUITE, MANDARIN ORIENTAL, Tokyo “It has the right blend of size, very high-end furnishings and amenities, and incredible views, including (on a clear day) Mount Fuji.” FROM \$11,270; MANDARINORIENTAL.COM/TOKYO *D.T.*



THE ONE ABOVE PENTHOUSE, THE ROYAL PORTFOLIO, Cape Town “Two stories spread over a colossal 15,000 square feet, it has everything you’d want in your penthouse apartment, including a private gym, two pools, an outdoor bar, and access to a very well-stocked wine cellar. But it’s the wraparound terraces with 360-degree vistas

that make this one of the finest pieces of real estate in Cape Town. It’s a hell of a place to throw a party, and, luckily, the penthouse comes with a butler and chef to help with that.” FROM \$6,255, THEROYALPORTFOLIO.COM *J.H.*



LA MANSION PRESIDENTIAL SUITE, FOUR SEASONS, Buenos Aires “The 2,000 square feet of this historic mansion come with a private balcony overlooking the hotel gardens, 18th-century antiques, and a splendid marble bathtub where Madonna, who stayed here during the filming of *Evita*, is said to have taken daily ice baths.” FROM \$465, FOURSEASONS.COM *P.I.*



ROYAL PENTHOUSE, THE CORINTHIA, London “Seriously opulent: a wine cellar, private lift, state-of-the-art study, and, most striking, a huge terrace with an unbelievable view over the Thames. There is no better spot in London for watching New Year’s fireworks.” FROM \$28,113, CORINTHIA.COM *J.E.*



PADEREWSKI SUITE, THE BRISTOL HOTEL, Warsaw “It may not be as modern or up-to-date as other grand suites, but talk about history! Jan Paderewski, piano virtuoso and onetime Polish prime minister, built the hotel in 1901 and lived in this suite (now a national monument) off and on.

The private balcony overlooking Warsaw’s Royal Route is to die for.” FROM \$2,530, HOTELBRISTOLWARSAW.PL/EN *G.K.*



ROYAL IMPERIAL SUITE, THE IMPERIAL HOTEL, New Delhi “Like the hotel itself, this suite oozes history. Much of the fine detail of India’s partition agreement was worked out here by Nehru, Gandhi, Jinnah, and Lord Mountbatten. The walls are covered with fabulous artworks by Prince Alexis

Soltykoff, and the sitting room/ballroom is a perfect place for entertaining. We recently threw a party here for 50 people.” FROM \$3,826, THEIMPERIALINDIA.COM *B. and V.D.*



WINTER GARDEN SUITES, ARARAT PARK HYATT, Moscow “All recently redone, with floor-to-ceiling windows overlooking the Bolshoi Theatre and the Kremlin. A good excuse to have breakfast in your room!” FROM \$1,638, PARK.HYATT.COM *G.T.*

THE ROYAL SUITE, FOUR SEASONS, Florence “If you want to see what it was like to be a Medici, book the Royal Suite. It’s covered in frescoes and filled with chandeliers and exquisite furniture, but somehow it doesn’t seem overdone. It still feels bright and airy—like your very own palazzo in Florence.” FROM \$17,288; FOURSEASONS/FLORENCE *T.M.*



The opulent hall of the Royal Suite

FAMILY GETAWAYS



PADASTE MANOR, Estonia “Bike, hike, and boat all day—you’re on Muhu Island, in the Baltic—then come in for a four-course gourmet dinner. Pädaste is perfectly done and ideal for families looking for time together, outdoor activities, and history.” FROM \$187, SLH.COM/PADASTE *G.T.*



MONTAGE LAGUNA BEACH, California “Kids and adults love this place equally, with all rooms facing the ocean, a dedicated kids pool, tide pools, and a terrific kids club. The staff also go the extra mile—it welcomes children before they arrive, and sends a funny postcard months later.” FROM \$795, MONTAGEHOTELS.COM *R.B.T.*



GLENEAGLES, Scotland “Sure, it’s famous for its golf courses, but there’s so much else to do: hiking, fishing, falconry, archery, off-road driving (in a Range Rover). There’s also an equestrian center, a kids club, a spa, beautiful swimming pools, and four restaurants, including one that specializes in Scotch beef and another that has two Michelin stars. I can’t think of a place better suited for a sporty family.” FROM \$398, GLENEAGLES.COM *J.E.*



RITZ-CARLTON BACHELOR GULCH, Beaver Creek, Colorado “There’s a ‘ski nanny’ who delivers the children to their lessons, keeps them entertained afterward, and brings them back at the end of the day. At night the whole family can go ziplining, ice skating, or snowmobiling off the property, then consult with the ‘s’mores sommelier’ back at the resort. He can help with those really tough decisions, like what kind of chocolate to put on your graham cracker.” FROM \$329, RITZCARLTON.COM/BACHELORGULCH *Meg Austin, The Travel Society*



MANDARIN ORIENTAL, Bodrum, Turkey “A sophisticated resort on a picture-perfect coastline that caters to kids as well as grown-ups. There’s a children’s pool, a playground, a complimentary kids club, a kids menu, and a video game room for teenagers. Plus, babysitting services in case you want to go to the spa for a few hours—and trust me, you do.” FROM \$1,200, MANDARINORIENTAL.COM/BODRUM *K.F.S.*



KIAWAH RESORT, South Carolina “It has a charming Southern feel, a beautiful coastline, and a wealth of programs for kids of all ages, like dolphin excursions, alligator walks, tideland treasure hunts, sailing lessons, and a family Olympics.” FROM \$240, KIAWAHRESORT.COM *M.B.*



A private pool at the One & Only Wolgan Valley

EMIRATES ONE & ONLY, Wolgan Valley, Australia “It’s like a posh summer camp for families. Wolgan Valley’s wide open spaces and array of nature-based activities will particularly appeal to older children. Horseback riding, mountain biking, archery, and uniquely Australian wildlife encounters ensure that the kids (and grown-ups) get outdoors and active. Each of the freestanding guest suites has its own private plunge pool, and there’s a shared playroom packed with books, games, toys, and craft supplies, as well as a kids menu at the restaurant and babysitting services.” FROM \$1,493, WOLGANVALLEY.ONEANDONLYRESORTS.COM *S.R.*



LLAO LLAO HOTEL & RESORT, Argentina “In a remote lakeside location, yet still less than an hour’s drive from the Bariloche airport, it’s a superb and hassle-free option for families. Room rates include a daily kids club for three- to 10-year-olds, with a wide array of activities, from painting and cooking classes to nature walks in the woods, and, for older kids, guided mountain-bike rides and rappelling.” FROM \$245, LLAOLLAO.COM *P.I.*



AWASI ATACAMA, Chile “It’s always a real hit, principally because the staff are very switched-on. It gives the kids their own travel diaries, organizes treasure hunts, sets up arts and crafts sessions with local artisans, and teaches astronomy classes, among the dozens of activities. There is a slight educational slant to most of the programs, which is always popular with the parents.” FROM \$2,480 FOR A THREE-NIGHT STAY, AWASIATACAMA.COM *P.I.*

JOHANNES HOHMOJA (PADASTE MANOR); BARBARA WRAFT (MONTAGE LAGUNA BEACH); EMIRATES ONE & ONLY; AWASI ATACAMA; LLAO LLAO HOTEL & RESORT GOLF SPA; CHRIS ROGERS (KIAWAH RESORT); GEORGE APOSTOLIS (MANDARIN ORIENTAL BODRUM); THE GLENEAGLES HOTEL; RITZ-CARLTON HOTEL COMPANY LLC (BACHELOR GULCH)



A trail ride at the Ranch at Rock Creek

THE RANCH AT ROCK CREEK, Montana “Its Granite Lodge gives you lush mountain scenery and a fairly authentic Western experience (rodeo, stagecoach rides). In the warmer months you can go fly-fishing, mountain biking, and more. In winter there’s cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, ice skating. There’s even a bowling alley.” FROM \$800, THERANCHATROCKCREEK.COM *T.M.*

CLAYOQUOT WILDERNESS RESORT, Vancouver Island “I’ve come here for years. It’s one of the few places where we have always been comfortable letting the children do their own thing—feeding the horses or using the trampoline. Between the kayaking, whale-watching trips, and bear watching, there’s something for everyone. And the safari-style tents are wonderful.” FROM \$4,550 FOR ADULTS, \$2,274 FOR CHILDREN (FOR FOUR NIGHTS), WILDRETREAT.COM *M. T.*



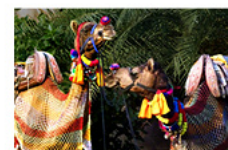
TIERRA ATACAMA, Chile “It isn’t quite as upscale or as private as Awasi—at Tierra you can dine at communal tables and go on excursions with other guests. But that’s part of the fun. Tierra is also family-owned, so the service feels very personal and old-fashioned.” FROM \$1,350 (FOR TWO NIGHTS), TIERRAHOTELS.COM *Marisol Mosquera, Aracari*



GROOTBOS, South Africa “It may sound boring—a nature reserve outside Hermanus, southeast of Cape Town—but it’s not. The landscape is exquisite, the resort’s modern design is stunning, and it offers many fun activities, including whale watching from a small plane and overnight hiking and camping trips.” FROM \$220, GROOTBOS.COM *J.Z.*



SARUNI SAMBURU, Kenya “Not only does it have immense family ‘villas’ with two bedrooms, and two pools at the camp, but the expertly trained guides are all Samburu warriors—a big thrill for the kids. Aside from the game drives and bush walks, the guides teach basic warrior skills (how to throw a spear, track an animal, build a fire), and they take you to nearby villages and schools. It’s not touristy but as authentic as it gets.” FROM \$460 FOR ADULTS, \$240 FOR CHILDREN, SARUNISAMBURU.COM *N.W. and D.S.*



AMANBAGH, Jaipur, India “This place is tried-and-true, based on my stay with my two- and four-year-olds. The highlights included a camel ride in the countryside and a visit to the surrounding villages, where we met local children. We also loved the heated swimming pool, the bicycles available to borrow, and the army of staff intent on making sure we were all happy. We never wanted to leave.” FROM \$550, AMANRESORTS.COM *B. and V.D.* «



The dining tent at Clayoquot

RANCH AT ROCK CREEK; GROOTBOS; AMAN RESORTS (AMANBAGH); STEVIE MANN (SAMBURI); SWIMMING AT TIERRA HOTELS (TIERRA ATACAMA); RELAIS & CHATEAUX (CLAYOQUOT WILDERNESS RESORT)