



escape

BY AZURE

Spring/Summer 2018





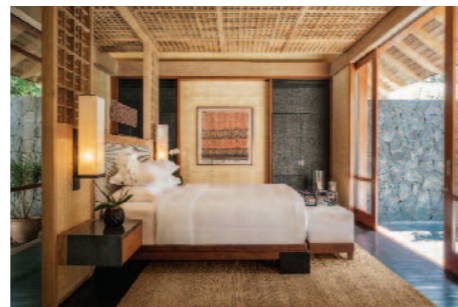
NEW Beginnings...

An ancient rainforest on a distant tropical archipelago is the setting for the much awaited re-opening of one of the most luxurious resorts in the world – The Datai Langkawi.

Having been closed since early September 2017 for restoration works, this September sees the doors flung wide once again as guests are welcomed back to a resort with new modern interiors and additional spa pavilions and a fitness centre close to the sandy beach. A surprise awaits with what's promised to be a dramatic arrival experience, born out of the resort's proximity and synergy with its natural surroundings. Indeed this prized destination is celebrated in the new dedicated *Nature Centre*, run by renowned resident naturalist Irshad Mobarak, ensuring guests get the chance to fully understand and appreciate the plant and animal life of Langkawi.



Accommodations vary from the Canopy Collection in the main building to the rustic villas of the Rainforest Collection and the Beach Collection, making the most of the sand and surf. Whichever you choose you can be sure of every comfort and amenity, and if you visit this summer you will be among the first guests to see the new and improved Datai Langkawi. Whether you love nature, sailing, golf, pampering or a bit of everything, you're certain to leave with a smile on your face and a plan to return.



SPECIAL OFFER
Stay 7 nights in a Canopy Deluxe Room on a breakfast basis, including return British Airways World Traveller flights, private transfers and access to the airport lounge on departure from London.
FROM £2,025 PER PERSON



Dear Traveller;

Our Spring/Summer 2018 newsletter brings to you offers and news from hotels all over the world, in Europe, Africa, Asia, Mexico, the Caribbean, the Middle East and the Americas. We also have oceanic options too with cruise holidays to die for.

Are you looking for golf? The Caribbean is famous for its courses, each with their own distinctive character. Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula also has stunning eighteens, and we have caddied a bagful of some of the best golf resorts in the region for you to choose from.

Maybe it's diving and snorkelling you want this summer? We have the Maldives and Mauritius, with crystal clear waters and an abundance of marine wildlife including manta rays and whale sharks, making for a never-to-be-forgotten holiday experience.

Wine buffs can find a special treat or two here, as we have worked with some of our partners in South Africa to give you an opportunity to sample some of the best wines that country has to offer. New Zealand, too, is famous for its wines and a lot more besides – find out inside!



Designer names like Bulgari also appear in these pages, thanks to their signature resort in Dubai, and there's a lot more in here to enthrall. Take a look, and let us know what takes your fancy. We know something will!

J O'Gorman

Jayne O'Gorman *Managing Director*

FRONT COVER
The Datai Langkawi – see page 2.

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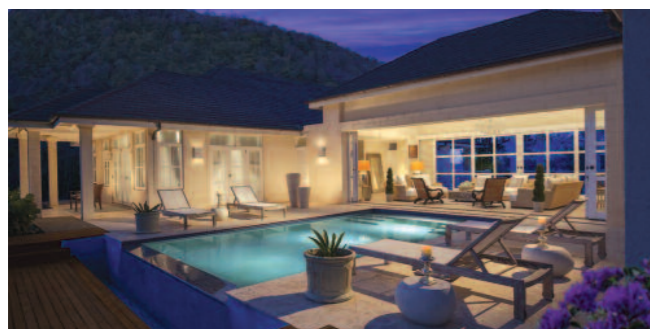
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READ ALL ABOUT IT...

STOP PRESS!

ROSEWOOD

Rosewood Baha Mar will open this Spring along the pristine beaches of Nassau on New Providence Island in the Bahamas, marking the entrance of the ultra-luxury Rosewood Hotels & Resorts brand into the Bahamas.



THE LIMING, BEQUIA

Bequia is set to welcome the first 5-star resort on the island, **The Liming**. Opening Autumn 2018, providing a haven for 'doing nothing'.



PINK SANDS CLUB CANOUAN

Pink Sands Club, The Grenadines – Mandarin Oriental's first Caribbean Hotel welcomes guests from 1 June 2018.



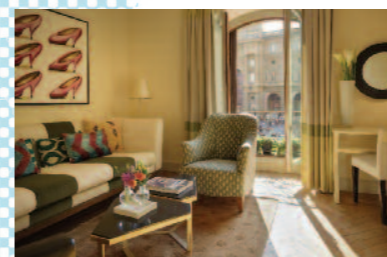
BELMOND IN ITALY

Belmond announces the acquisition of **Castello di Casole**, a historic castle hotel in the heart of rural Tuscany.



ROCCO FORTE

Rocco Forte's **Hotel Savoy** in Florence has re-opened its doors in April after extensive re-fashioning.



SIX SENSES KAPLANKAYA

Six Senses is taking Europe by storm and opens in Bodrum, Turkey



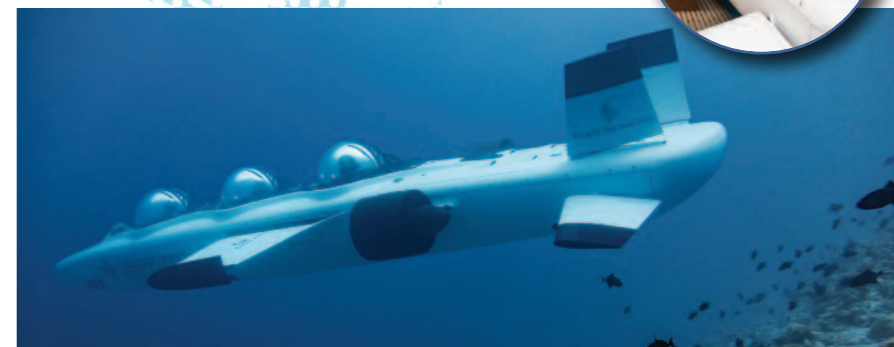
DANAI BEACH RESORTS & VILLAS

Brand new to **Danai Beach Resorts & Villas** is 'The Bird'; a 82ft luxury yacht sailing the idyllic waters of the Mediterranean Sea.



FOUR SEASONS

Four Seasons Resort Maldives at Landaa Giravaaru introduces **Deepflight Super Falcon 3S** - the world's first three man submarine.



STOP PRESS!



Get up with the Early Bird...



HOTEL BAHIA DEL DUQUE, Tenerife

Gastronomy, wellness, and exquisite villa living just three hours from the UK? Tenerife's Hotel Bahia del Duque fulfils all of this and more. With nine diverse restaurants including Mexican, Italian, Japanese, traditional Canarian and international fine dining you'll always have options when you're hungry, and you'd have to stay a long time to work your way through every dish. But staying a long time would be a pleasure, with around 300 days of sunshine a year and your choice of suites or one of Las Villas, which include the Villa la Mimosas with two bedrooms and its own private infinity edge pool.

The resort itself has five pools and thirteen bars and lounges, so poolside refreshments are never far away. There is also a 24-hour gym so you can keep to your own schedule for fitness, and after dark the astronomical observatory comes into its own allowing you to enjoy a location with clear skies and amazing sights.

The Bahia Wellness Centre offers a full range of treatments and therapies, and Azure guests can enjoy a complimentary spa visit this summer, as well as an early booking discount – call us to know more.

SPECIAL OFFER

Stay 7 nights in a Garden View Room on a breakfast basis, including return economy flights, private transfers and access to the airport lounge on departure from London.

FROM £1,135 PER PERSON



Badge of Honour

SPECIAL OFFER

Stay 7 nights in a Junior Suite Garden View on a breakfast basis, including return economy flights, private transfers and access to the airport lounge on departure from London. FROM £1,215 PER PERSON

Situated in the cossetting embrace of Cyprus' Pissouri Bay, a short drive from Paphos, is a resort which has very recently re-opened following a multi-million Euro renovation. So what does it take to make an award-winning destination hotel even better?

For the second year in a row, **Columbia Beach Resort** has won a hatful of coveted World Travel Awards: *Europe's Leading Luxury All-Suite Resort, Mediterranean's Leading Resort and Cyprus' Leading Resort.* And considering this was before the recent big spend, this is clearly not a hotel which rests on its laurels. The resort has also featured recently in the Times' Top 50 beach resorts in Europe. The spa, too, has many awards to its name. Unsurprising, as it offers a full menu of facials, hand and foot treatments, massages, jacuzzi, sauna, steam room, squash courts, a fully-equipped gym,



aerobics room, hair and nail studio and indoor pool which links to the outdoor infinity pool in the summer allowing you to swim indoors, outdoors and virtually through doors! With 169 individually appointed suites, you'll certainly find a home-from-home that's to your taste at Columbia Beach, and also to your taste will be the restaurants – from gourmet fine dining to relaxed tavema – and Ouzeri, a bar offering a selection of ouzo and other local favourites. A visit to Cyprus would hardly be complete without a little sip!



Columbia Beach Resort, already boasting back-to-back awards, is now better than ever, and there's no better time to visit than this summer.



SIX SENSES KAPLANKAYA, Turkey

This resort has recently been given a complete makeover and from May 2018 guests will be able to enjoy all new Six Senses interiors, newly landscaped gardens and many other brand new features that will make this a holiday destination to remember. Getting here is easy via a flight into Bodrum and from there you can choose to ride up to the resort by car, sail up by yacht, or touchdown in a helicopter, with all options taking less than an hour.

This destination has 141 guestrooms and suites so it will feel spacious but never crowded, and the suites range all the way up to the Sea View Kaplankaya Suite with its private terrace and pool, and all accommodations feature the latest control technology via iPad app putting your personal environment at your fingertips. And the outdoor surroundings will definitely be to your liking also, as the resort has been designed to meld perfectly with the beautiful natural features found along this coast. Tours can be arranged to see the Bodrum peninsula, or to dip into local heritage and culture and if you want to get wet, this region has wonderful opportunities for snorkelling and scuba diving with their own dedicated team to get you into the water.



SIXTH SENSE...

Turkey straddles the divide between Asia and Europe, ensuring wonderful weather and a sensory overload of colours, smells, sounds and tastes. It also has an Aegean coastline so it never gets too hot or too cold, making it the perfect location for Six Senses Kaplankaya.

SPECIAL OFFER
 Stay 7 nights in a Sea View Superior Room on a breakfast basis, including return economy flights, private transfers and access to the airport lounge on departure from London.
 FROM £1,610 PER PERSON

A host of land-based sports and activities are available, including basketball, wallyball – indoor volleyball where the walls are in play and the pace is frantic! – badminton, cooking classes, tailor-made sightseeing trips and, of course, a signature Six Senses Spa featuring authentic Turkish Rasul treatments comprising a mud cleansing in a steam chamber to purify the body followed by a full-body massage to relax you completely. A complete menu of other treatments are available and considering the reputation Six Senses have for their spas, you won't want to miss out.

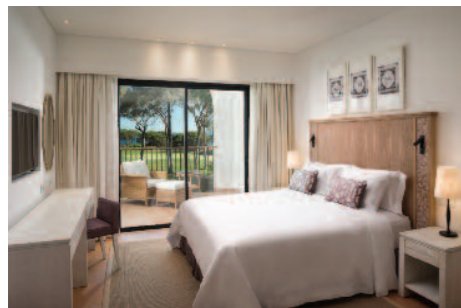
Your tastebuds will tingle in the resort's three restaurants which serve up dishes capturing the essence of Aegean cuisine including Mezze



by the Sea, which dishes up freshly caught fish and seafood alongside hand-crafted traditional and modern mezze dishes, just perfect for those relaxing warm alfresco evenings when all you need is good company, good wine, and a languorous parade of delightful nibbles to enjoy with edifying conversation and who knows, maybe romance in the air?

Six Senses Kaplankaya is ideal for families as there is so much to do both at the resort and in the surrounding area, and its proximity to the UK makes it a very good choice for those with young children who don't want a long-haul flight. It's also great for couples as it offers the intimacy of a small boutique escape with all the facilities and modernity of one of the biggest names in luxury hotels. From May 2018 you can come and find out for yourself exactly how great Six Senses Kaplankaya really is.





SPECIAL OFFER
 Stay 7 nights in a Deluxe Resort View Room on a breakfast basis, including return economy flights, private transfers and access to the airport lounge on departure from London.
 FROM £1,005 PER PERSON



Summer of Sport

Pine Cliffs Hotel, a Luxury Collection Resort – Algarve, Portugal

It might be difficult getting the kids to go abroad this summer if they're football fans, what with the World Cup and all. But Pine Cliffs Algarve is only a short flight away in Portugal and has a football coaching programme this summer, run by former England internationals, so they can go on holiday without missing a kick. With a host of recent awards to its credit, Pine Cliffs is among Europe's best resorts and offers a wide choice of accommodations as well as 11 restaurants and bars including poolside *Corda Café*, where you can choose from a wide range of local and global refreshments. A dedicated children's village, *Porto Pirata*, has plenty to stimulate young minds but this summer football is on the agenda via a team-up with British coaching company Campioni. Sessions are designed by ex-internationals like Andy Cole and Joleon Lescott, so who knows? Maybe your little star will be the star of World Cup 2026 or 2030 after coaching from some of England's finest players!



SPECIAL OFFER
 Stay 7 nights in a Deluxe Room on a half-board basis, including return economy flights, private transfers and access to the airport lounge on departure from London.
 FROM £1,135 PER PERSON



Away with the Kids...

Anantara Vilamoura – Algarve, Portugal

Vilamoura on the Algarve is famous for its year-round sunshine, excellent golf courses, and of course accessibility from the UK. And in Anantara Vilamoura it has one of Europe's most integrated and complete resorts for families or couples alike. With a Kids' Club catering for ages all the way up to 17, a variety of academies for things like dance, golf and football, and a choice of heated outdoor pools family holidays are easy and fun for everyone here. Couples or honeymooners will be delighted to know there is an adults' only area featuring a Cascade Pool, while champagne flows in the Veuve Clicquot cabanas as the Anantara Sunshine Butler keeps you refreshed with water and fresh fruit along with beachside items as needed. Vilamoura is Europe's only Anantara resort and brings with it the fine dining, world-class spa, and all the luxury you'd expect from one of the world's leading hotel names.



Elounda SA Hotels & Resorts – Greece

Elounda on the Greek island of Crete has three great reasons for you to visit this year, and they are sisters. Sister hotels, that is, each with its own private beach and access to some outstanding facilities for all the family including golf, tennis and an excellent selection of bars and restaurants. At **Porto Elounda** you'll find an excellent golf and spa resort with a *Six Senses Spa* – shared with its sister hotels – and a championship golf course just a short drive away. A collaboration with leading La Liga side Valencia CF also brings top football coaching for children, a hot topic in a World Cup Year, another feature shared by all three Elounda hotels. **Elounda Mare**, the only Relais & Chateaux Hotel in Crete, proudly unveils a new addition this year – the 4-bedroom villa called "the Minoan Palace" which has ample indoor and outdoor space, a private pool, a fitness room, and an elevator, making it perfect for all the family. And at **Elounda Peninsula** you'll find the finest Pan-Asian dining as Freud Oriental from Athens will be working in collaboration with Koh, the resort's waterside restaurant. A new menu, great flavours, and a resort you'll return to time and again, at Europe's only all suite and villa waterfront hotel.



SPECIAL OFFER - Porto Elounda
 Stay 7 nights in a Porto Sea View Room on a breakfast basis, including return economy flights, private transfers and access to the airport lounge on departure from London.
 FROM £1,835 PER PERSON

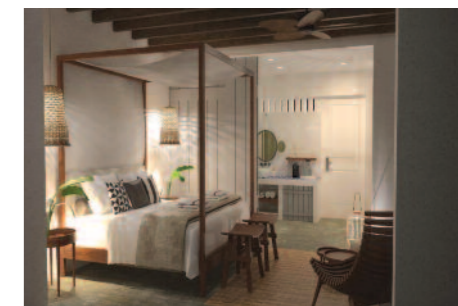


Lindian Village – Lardos, Rhodes

A holiday in Greece is often about two things – sleepy relaxation and taking in ancient history. At Lindian Village on the island of Rhodes, you can take it easy in the very bosom of an ancient civilisation. Here you can enjoy a variety of watersports, charter a private yacht or take to the air for a sightseeing tour you'll never forget – or you can just chill out on the beach or in the freshwater pool overlooking the sparkling blue Aegean Sea, sipping long drinks. You can also enjoy a choice of rooms including the new Bohemian rooms, spacious enough to include either a private pool or private Jacuzzi, as well as a king-size four poster bed, all decorated in a style inspired by and in keeping with local tradition. And if you're looking for someone to care for the kids while the grown-ups take a break, they'll be in safe hands here in the resort's UK-run kids' club. So if you're looking for a relaxing five-star Greek village ambience with a real Bohemian feel, Lindian Village has it all.



SPECIAL OFFER
 Stay 7 nights in a Garden View Room on a breakfast basis, including return economy flights, private transfers and access to the airport lounge on departure from London.
 FROM £1,005 PER PERSON



In the Pink...



SPECIAL OFFER
 Stay 7 nights in a One Bedroom Oceanview Room on a breakfast basis, including return economy flights, private transfers and access to the airport lounge on departure from London.
 FROM £4,795 PER PERSON



Pink Sands Club Canouan, The Grenadines
 Verdant shores, glassy seas and talcum-powder beaches are the backdrop for Pink Sands Club, on the tiny island of Canouan in The Grenadines. And Pink Sands Club could be the venue for the best Caribbean holiday you've ever had.

All suites and villas face the water at Pink Sands so a sea-view is guaranteed – all you need do is choose between a suite, a lagoon villa or one of eight new patio villas which feature sophisticated contemporary Italian design in 3- or 4-bedroom layouts with entertaining spaces and a private infinity-edge pool.



What's for dinner? You are spoilt for choice with a host of delicious culinary options...Pink Sands Club, Canouan is part of a 1,200-acre estate community, Grenadines Estates. Five restaurants and bars are located within Pink Sands Club, Canouan. Offering the freshest produce in atmospheric beachfront locations, our menus are simply mouthwatering. Four more restaurants and bars located within Grenadines Estates – just a short golf cart drive away. All restaurants and bars rotate their schedules on a weekly basis and are open subject to seasonal demand. All offer guests the ability to charge to their suite or villa.

The Spa at Pink Sands Club, Canouan has a talented team of therapists who are meticulously trained to relax, soothe and decompress. The spa suites are individual palapas, which are thatched roof structures made of palm fronds using chiqui-chiqui from the deep forest of Venezuela. They are constructed of selected woods from Brazil and Guyana, built along the hillside with striking views of the Caribbean Sea. Each of palapa has private showers, changing rooms and relaxation terraces.

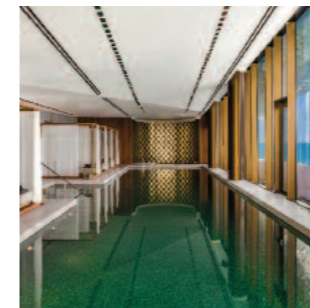
One of the Caribbean's truly exclusive resorts, Pink Sands Club Canouan should be on everyone's wish list, especially if you like to enjoy the best of the best.

BVLGARI's New Jewel...



BVLGARI Resort and Residences Dubai

Dubai's luxury lifestyle is famous the world over, and the most recent jewel to be firmly embedded in its crown is BVLGARI Resort Dubai. Given how strongly the name BVLGARI is associated with finery, you'd be right to expect something special.



Situated on a man-made island in Jumeirah Bay, the resort is designed to give seclusion and tranquillity just a stone's throw from a bustling metropolis. This feeling of calm and wellness extends into the luxuriously-appointed spa, a 1,700-square metre oasis featuring a hammam, 24-hour fitness centre, eight treatment rooms, an authentic Italian barber, a beauty salon and a large and inviting indoor pool with a sea view through its glass walls. You can almost put yourself in control of the seasons here, with rainforest showers and ice fountains adding those extra touches of indulgence.

BVLGARI's first Yacht Club and Marina, along with the choice of restaurants, will give you that Mediterranean feel, lazing away days with a chilled glass in one hand and the sun glinting off the water, though returning to your suite or villa will be equally enjoyable. The villas in particular are a source of real pride here, with one, two and three-bedroom options and the stunning BVLGARI Villa, with a large private garden, private home cinema, spectacular oval pool and a jacuzzi and hammam for relaxation.

SPECIAL OFFER
 Stay 7 nights in a 1 Bedroom Beach Villa on a breakfast basis, including return Emirates economy flights, private transfers and access to the airport lounge on departure from London.
 FROM £7,360 PER PERSON



For the ultimate in Italian chic in a cocoon of calm just a short walk from the busiest parts of one of the world's most talked about cities, BVLGARI is – as is so often the case – unbeatable.



FEED Your SENSES



Crystal clear water, powdery white beaches, perpetual sunshine, an award-winning spa and gourmet fine dining – all the ingredients of a perfect holiday, and all found together just a short drive from Cancun International Airport on Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula. Welcome to **NIZUC Resort and Spa**.

A range of suites, some interconnecting for family groups, and villas are dotted around the hotel's 29 acres giving you plenty of space for privacy if you so wish. The accommodations are finished in a relaxed style reflecting the region's Mayan history, so you get a real sense of how this part of Mexico enjoys life. And there is plenty of life to enjoy, with six restaurants overseen by executive chef Sylvain Desbois all combining to take you on a culinary journey around the Mediterranean, Asia, Peru and of course Mexico, with relaxed café and grill offerings for when you want things a little more chilled.

You won't feel any more chilled than that moment you leave the award-winning *ESPA Spa*, the first of its kind in the Mexican Caribbean. A range of Mayan-inspired therapies will help you unwind and rejuvenate, and the signature NIZUC Thermal Experience takes you through a guided circuit of temperatures and water pressures, invigorating you and sparking your senses to life, getting you ready to experience some of the great sights of this area including the Great Pyramid at Chichen Itza, and stunning underwater caves not seen anywhere else.

NIZUC has all of this and more, so whatever you're looking for this summer you'll find it all here.



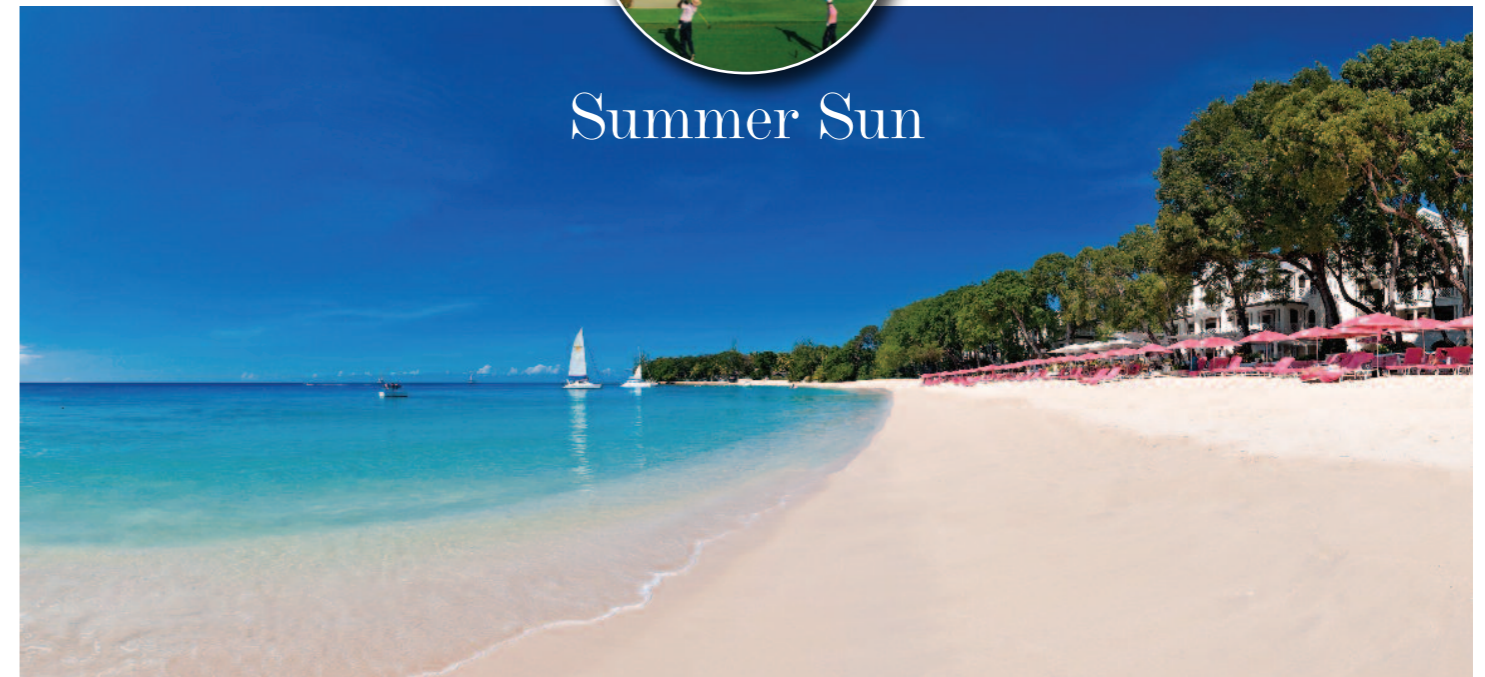
SPECIAL OFFER

Stay 7 nights in a Garden Suite on a breakfast basis, including return Emirates economy flights, private transfers and access to the airport lounge on departure from London.

FROM £2,040 PER PERSON



Summer Sun



SANDY LANE, Barbados

No discerning traveller should ever look back on his or her journeys and be able to say "Yes I went to Barbados, but I didn't stay at Sandy Lane". If you've not been yet, why not make 2018 the year you treat yourself to this iconic hotel?

With a first-class spa, superb sports facilities, great golf and an excellent kids' club there really is something for everyone here, and with their summer packages on stays of four nights or more for 2018 you can make the most of Sandy Lane, no matter who you go with. The **Family** package gives unlimited use of *The Treehouse Club* and complimentary dinner for children aged 3-12, as well as sports camps and a gift for each child on arrival. Travelling as a couple? Romance is always in the air at Sandy Lane, and the **Romance** package will welcome you with champagne and chocolate-dipped gold leaf strawberries. A candlelit dinner, couple's massage, a lunch, an afternoon tea for two – almost everything you thought about doing is already part of the package.



SPECIAL OFFER

Stay 7 nights in an Orchid Room on a breakfast basis, including British Airways World Traveller flights, private transfers and access to the airport lounge on departure from London.

FROM £3,635 PER PERSON

If you're taking a break to refresh and revitalise, the **Spa & Wellness** package combines fitness and a range of treatments and therapies to give you an all over feeling of rejuvenation, though if one of you wants the spa and the other wants a round of championship-standard golf you can simply trade in one for the other, then meet later for lunch. The **Golf** package includes a daily round on *The Old Nine* and three, five, or seven day vouchers for *The Country Club* – depending on the length of your stay. You can even upgrade a round on *The Country Club* for a round on the famous *Green Monkey* course.

To many, Barbados is Sandy Lane. Isn't it time you found out why?



EXPLORE with AZURE...

Mountains, beaches, vineyards, volcanoes, whale-watching, gastronomy – sounds like a round the world trip, but its all in one place if that place is New Zealand.

New Zealand has some of the best national parks in the world, unspoilt wilderness where you might be lucky enough to spot rare creatures like the nocturnal Kiwi. It also has amazing beaches for sunbathing or, in true Kiwi spirit, sailing, adventuring in the surf on a kayak or with your snorkel and fins on. Many people think of fiordland, mountains and volcanic wonderlands when you mention New Zealand – and they're not wrong – but they forget that this is an island group which enjoys rolling vineyards, vast farmland and some of the clearest waters anywhere. For this reason, Kiwis pride themselves on fresh produce, not just their incredible wine.

As you'd expect, the seafood in New Zealand is always straight from the sea and always of outstanding flavour and quality – after all, it was probably swimming wild in the morning and on your table at lunchtime. One of the best coastlines for this is Kaikoura, labelled the 'marine serengeti' and thus one of the best places in the world for whale watching. Kai means food in Maori, and Koura roughly translates to crayfish, so this is a must do stop off on your New Zealand itinerary.

The fact that New Zealand is a small nation allows for a farm-to-fork or estate-to-plate ethos, where farmed food can be traced and goes directly from the farmer to the chef to you. This allows restaurants up and down the country to present dishes exactly as they are meant to be enjoyed, from prime New Zealand lamb to green-lipped mussels, all fresh, delicious and perfect.



WHAT'S A GOOD MEAL WITHOUT A GOOD WINE?
NEW ZEALAND'S CLASSIC WINE TRAIL CAN BE
CYCLED OR YOU CAN BE CHAUFFEURÉD — A GOOD
IDEA IF TASTING IS A BIG PART OF YOUR DAY...



Many of New Zealand's luxury lodges are either positioned on pristine coastline, or vast working farms, and sometimes both, such as Wharekauhau Lodge, Annandale Luxury Villas or the incredible Cape Kidnappers. A stay at any of these properties means not just epic views to wake up to, but some of the best menus in the country.

What's a good meal without a good wine? New Zealand's *Classic Wine Trail* can be cycled or you can be chauffeured – a good idea if tasting is a big part of your day – and gives you the chance to sample world-class wines. Starting in Hawke's Bay on the east coast of the North island, through the glorious Wairarapa valley and down to the famous region of Marlborough, on the top of the South island. Further South, you should head to Queenstown to enjoy Central Otago's famous grape, Pinot Noir. The region is the world's most southerly wine growing region in the world, and long sunny days and cool nights make for the perfect glass of red. Stay at properties on the edge of Queenstown's Lake Wakitipu such as *Eichardt's Private Boutique Hotel* or *Matakauri Lodge* – the perfect base for this thrilling region.

The cities of Auckland and Wellington are well known foody destinations with superb café culture, vibrant restaurant scenes and yet more shimmering coastlines. You will also discover that the craft beer industry is thriving in the country, making for an interesting opportunity to sample a world of beers you probably haven't encountered anywhere else. Nelson at the top of the South island is a great region for craft ale and upcoming wineries to match. As well as the pristine waters of the Abel Tasman marine reserve and national park. From fjords to frothing ales, fine wines to fresh seafood, traditional Maori cooking to the most cutting edge fine dining, and with beautiful, ever-changing and often dramatic scenery as your backdrop, New Zealand is all things to all travellers.



Find out for yourself this year.

**100% PURE
NEW ZEALAND**
newzealand.com/luxury

The problem with “getting away from it all” is that a lot of other people have the same idea at the same time of year. This is where **SeaDream Yacht Club** fits perfectly – a luxury yachting experience which lets only 112 people get away from it all on any single voyage, giving you luxury and exclusivity alongside the chance to relax and roam the open sea.

With 95 crew aboard – almost one crew member per passenger! – and an open bar, you’ll never have to wait for a drink to be refreshed or for your needs to be tended to, and the air of informal elegance aboard will always give you the feeling of an intimate yacht rather than a colossal, overrun cruise liner. World class cuisine and a luxury spa are here too, so being pampered and cosseted will be the order of play leaving you to enjoy the ambience and the ever-changing surroundings. A pool, fitness studio, indoor golf, outdoor movies, a variety of watersports and a cocktail bar with stunning views will help the days drift pleasantly by.



Autumn is always a good time to head for the seas of the Caribbean in particular, when the weather is just starting to dampen the spirits back home, and SeaDream have over a dozen voyages in this region between September and December this year. How about flying into Barbados and taking a round trip to see Martinique, Saint Lucia and Tobago? Or fly to Puerto Rico and yacht around the British Virgin Islands and St. Barths? Guaranteed sunshine, and the finest food and service are already aboard, just waiting for you.



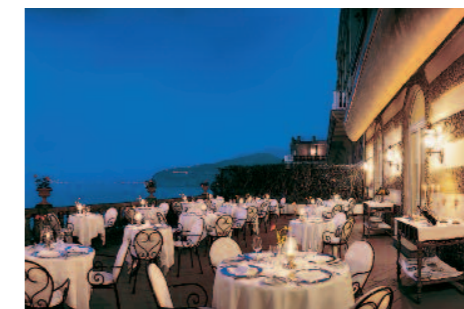
SPECIAL OFFER - Bridgetown to Bridgetown (15 - 22 December 2018)
 Stay 7 nights on board *SeaDream I* based on an all-inclusive basis including return economy flights, transfers and access to the airport lounge on departure from London.
 FROM £3,495 PER PERSON



Grand Hotel Excelsior Vittoria, Sorrento
 Located on the southern curve of the Bay of Naples, Sorrento is perfectly situated to catch the best of the Mediterranean’s wonderful weather. It’s also home to Grand Hotel Excelsior Vittoria, so you already have two great reasons to visit.

The hotel’s newest one-of-a-kind suite, the Pavarotti Suite, is dedicated to the opera legend who often stayed here and it really lives up to the name in both style and stature, as does the rest of the hotel. A favourite among celebrities, artists and even monarchs over the years, this hotel hits the heights of luxury with a boutique spa and Michelin-starred fine dining, while giving easy access to shopping, history, and tremendous vistas.

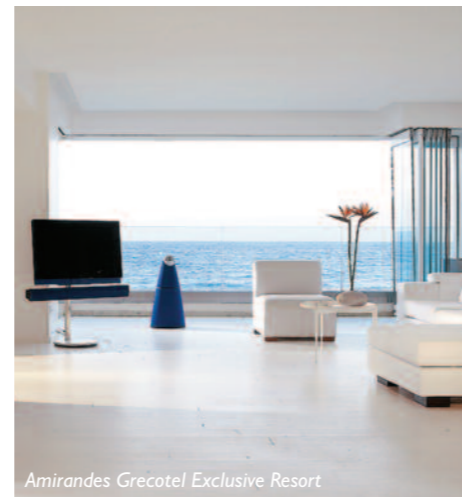
Kings, artists, stars and legends have all stayed at Grand Hotel Excelsior Vittoria. So can you.



SPECIAL OFFER
 Stay 4 nights in the Pavarotti Suite on a breakfast basis, including return economy flights, private transfers and access to the airport lounge on departure from London.
 FROM £4,015 PER PERSON



Amirandes Grecotel Exclusive Resort



Amirandes Grecotel Exclusive Resort



Amirandes Grecotel Exclusive Resort

Amirandes Grecotel Exclusive Resort and Caramel Grecotel Boutique Resort, Crete

Crete is the largest of the Greek islands and is steeped in the history of ancient civilisations. It's also drenched in sun year-round and situated perfectly for a short flight from the UK. Good enough reasons to visit, but here are two more – Amirandes Grecotel Exclusive Resort and Caramel Grecotel Boutique Resort.



There are some pretty compelling reasons for visiting Crete this summer, and we're sure after one visit you'll find some even more compelling reasons to come back.



Amirandes Grecotel Exclusive Resort



Caramel Grecotel Boutique Resort



Caramel Grecotel Boutique Resort

Amirandes Grecotel Exclusive Resort has been designed to reflect the sprawling palaces of Minoan kings and the nobles who formerly ruled here, so you'll see regal style in every feature. With a tranquil lagoon at your feet you can enjoy the warmth of the Mediterranean and with a host of fine restaurants to choose from you can indulge in everything from local cuisine and Italian classics to pan-Asian specialities and of course, given the location, some amazing seafood. You can even cast your eye over genuine Picasso artworks, if you want to feed your soul a little too. Children and families are welcomed here with open arms, with the *Grecoland Kids' Club*, *Discovery Adventures*, children's paddling pool and kid-friendly staff on hand to treat your little stars like celebrities while you indulge in some star treatment yourself at the *Elixir Alchemy Spa* with treatments using extracts from rare local plants to give you a unique experience. Tennis, diving, snorkelling, an Olympic sized pool,

private pools for suite and villa guests, and a wide choice of watersports are also available if you'd rather be active – its entirely up to you at Amirandes Grecotel Exclusive Resort. If you'd prefer a more intimate destination, Amirandes Grecotel has a sister who might suit you: **Caramel Grecotel Boutique Resort**. With a stunning confetti pool which seems to shift hue to match your moods, and emulating an island settlement with accommodations featuring hand-carved furniture and designer cloth, this resort offers contemporary style coupled with timeless elegance and sophistication. Cool and inviting suites make it easy to find a home-from-home here, though you have further options with beautiful bungalows, stunning villas and the ultimate in luxury in two, three and four-bedroom beachfront villas ideal for family breaks or groups of adults holidaying together. The restaurants at Caramel serve up epicurean fine dining as well as relaxed alfresco repasts, and homage

is paid to organic Cretan produce at both hotels, giving you a healthy and vibrant taste of local life. Canoes and pedaloes allow you to get out on the water, and the PADI dive school will help you get into and under it while there are many choices of sporting fun on land including mountain biking or guided cycle tours as well as beach games and fitness facilities. Both Amirandes Grecotel Exclusive Resort and Caramel Grecotel Boutique Resort are close to the airport allowing for a very short interval between your feet touching Cretan soil and you relaxing in your room, and they also both have an enviable position on a beautiful soft golden beach, so there will be an even shorter period between unpacking your bags and getting sand between your toes.



SPECIAL OFFER - Caramel Grecotel Boutique Resort

Stay 7 nights in a Junior Suite with Sea View on a breakfast basis, including return economy flights, private transfers and access to the airport lounge on departure from London.

FROM £1,390 PER PERSON



The Oberoi Beach Resort, Al Zorah – Ajman

If you're looking for a holiday in the Middle East but you've already seen Dubai, The Oberoi Beach Resort, Al Zorah could be the ideal choice. A short jaunt along the coast from Dubai, this stunning hotel sits in a vast protected forest and opens out onto its own private white sand beach, perfect for catching the sun or enjoying kayaking, snorkelling or windsurfing. The championship golf course will provide a challenge for anyone who enjoys the Scottish game, and the resort offers indoor and al fresco restaurants as well as a fabulous spa. Those who opt for a two or three-bedroom private villa can also choose to enjoy a private terrace barbecue prepared by the resort's head chef. As the newest hotel in Ajman, The Oberoi Beach Resort is one of a kind and completely modern, while working in harmony with nature. All this is just a short flight from the UK into Dubai International Airport, so a quick trip to the sun is easily within reach here.

SPECIAL OFFER

Stay 7 nights in a Premier Room with Private Terrace on a breakfast basis, including return economy flights, private transfers and access to the airport lounge on departure from London.
FROM £1,660 PER PERSON



The Oberoi, Mauritius – Mauritius

Mauritius – the very name conjures up an exciting history of busy trading ports dealing in exotic goods and spices, awakening the senses and entrancing the mind. The Oberoi, Mauritius, just twenty minutes' drive from the heart of the island's capital, is perfectly placed to bring you there. Positioned as it is below the equator, Mauritius enjoys year-round sunshine making it a fantastic destination for holidays whenever you choose, and The Oberoi, Mauritius has access to over 600m of pristine beaches as it sits on Turtle Bay, home to a vibrant coral reef and some excellent snorkelling. True to Mauritius' history, The Oberoi, Mauritius is keen to stimulate your senses and has designed a host of activities to do just that, entitled *Touching Senses*. Wine-tasting, stargazing, painting and cooking classes, Hindu ceremonies, nature walks – all brought together to give you a real taste of Mauritius as it is and ever was. The Oberoi, Mauritius – it makes so much sense.



SPECIAL OFFER

Stay 7 nights in a Luxury Pavilion on a breakfast basis, including return Emirates flights, private transfers and access to the airport lounge on departure from London.
FROM £2,945 PER PERSON



Anantara Kihavah Maldives Villas

There's something special about the Maldives. Maybe it's the pure white beaches, the crystal clear water, the abundant marine life, the laidback lifestyle, or all these things put together. Maybe it's Anantara Kihavah. Accommodations are, as you'd expect, luxurious with a host of modern amenities including private pools and direct beach or lagoon access. A dedicated children's club and children's menu, as well as an al fresco cinema and a wealth of fun beach activities, means you can have family nights whenever you like, while the hotel's babysitting team can help you get a few nights off, too. Dining at Anantara Kihavah is an experience with both over- and underwater restaurants giving access to world cuisines prepared by expert chefs. The underwater restaurant, *SEA*, showcases the best of the Maldives below the waves, and *SKY*, the rooftop bar and observatory gives you a rare unspoilt glimpse into the cosmos as the absence of light pollution will allow the resort's resident astronomer, Ali Shameem, to show you the heavens in brilliant detail. Ali is a born storyteller and he will help you find a new and marvellous appreciation of the universe beyond our atmosphere. What were previously just points of light in the night sky will come alive with features previously hidden – moons, planets, stars – as you look skyward under expert guidance.



“ANANTARA KIHAVAH IS A KNOCKOUT MALDIVIAN RESORT THAT WILL LEAVE YOU SEEING STARS”

SPECIAL OFFER

Stay 7 nights in a Beach Pool Villa on a full-board basis, including return Emirates economy flights, private transfers and access to the airport lounge on departure from London.
FROM £4,265 PER PERSON



A Culinary Flight...

Cobblers' Cove in Barbados is perfect for a get-away-from-it all holiday in tranquil, sun-kissed surroundings. Reminiscent of an English country house, this all-suite boutique hotel on Goodings Bay on the island's platinum west coast is home to *The Barbados Hotel & Tourism Association Restaurant of the Year, Camelot*, so the menu alone is worth the trip. You can even take a market tour with the head chef and learn about some of the freshest local ingredients and how they are sourced. Swimming with hawksbill turtles, horse-riding, golf, water-skiing and many other activities are also available, or you can just relax on the beach or be pampered in the hotel's spa. The concierge team have carefully curated a selection of tours and excursions to help you make the most of Barbados including boat trips around the coast, garden tours, champagne cruises, heritage tours and fishing trips. Of course, if you have your own ideas the front desk will be more than happy to help bring them to life.



SPECIAL OFFER

Stay 7 nights in a Junior Suite on a half-board basis, including return British Airways World Traveller flights, private transfers and access to the airport lounge on departure from London.
FROM £2,120 PER PERSON



SPECIAL OFFER

Stay 7 nights in a Cobblers Garden Suite on a breakfast basis, including return British Airways World Traveller flights, private transfers and access to the airport lounge on departure from London.
FROM £1,885 PER PERSON

For a change of scene, head to Grenada and **Calabash**, a luxury boutique hotel in the south of the island with both a fine dining restaurant and a casual beachside offering, as well as an excellent spa and – for those who enjoy scuba – close access to the world's first *Underwater Sculpture Park*. Sailing and paddleboard lessons will have you enjoying the bay in no time, and if you're more interested in the sand than the water here you'll find inviting beaches fringed by lush greenery keeping you pleasantly cool as the sun turns you golden. It's worth taking yourself off the beach too, particularly with excursions like a boat trip to Fish Friday, a street food festival in the fishing town of Gouyave, and if food is something you enjoy it's worth noting that the signature restaurant here at Calabash is overseen by celebrity chef Gary Rhodes so you can be assured of exciting and innovative flavours to tickle the palate.



Relais & Chateaux also have a wonderful destination in the Dominican Republic, with **Eden Roc at Cap Cana**. Situated at the eastern tip of the island and surrounded by tropical rainforest, this boutique hotel is reminiscent of the classic luxury of the French and Italian Riviéras in its architecture. With just 34 suites Eden Roc is the epitome of exclusivity and you'll never want for space or for the attentions of the staff, and you'll always find something to do with golf, equestrian activities, eco-adventures to get you out and about, or just the beach club to relax and while away the days in. Relais & Chateaux are famous for the quality of their dining, and that's borne out here with three distinctive restaurants offering exquisite menus including dishes like caramelised lobster medallions or Bocaboca fish with plantain, and the lounges pour a wide variety of delicious cocktails to keep you lubricated and refreshed.



SPECIAL OFFER

Stay 7 nights in a Luxury Pool Junior Suite on a breakfast basis, including return British Airways World Traveller flights, private transfers and access to the airport lounge on departure from London.
FROM £2,950 PER PERSON

SO WITH RELAIS & CHATEAUX THIS SUMMER, THERE'S NO NEED TO CHOOSE JUST ONE DESTINATION. YOU CAN CHOOSE AS MANY AS YOU LIKE.



A Place for all Seasons...

Many visitors to Italy focus on a city location and don't give themselves the opportunity to appreciate the majestic scenery here. A twin-centre break at Ca'Sagredo and Ciasa Salares will give you the chance to see one of Italy's great cities – Venice – and also allow you to marvel at the scenic splendour of the Dolomite Mountains to the north.



Head north to the heart of the Dolomites and you'll find **Hotel Ciasa Salares** in the land of Ladins; a region with its own language and traditions. The location, above the centre of San Cassiano, is ideal for hiking up into the mountains or taking photography trips to capture the surrounding natural beauty. It's a great place to relax and just be, with wonderful views from every room and **Spa Vives** bringing you a range of pampering face and body treatments. Three restaurants and a wine bar are enough to ensure there's a treat for every mealtime, and the **Wine Cellar Siriola** goes further with tastings, fondue and its own cheese room – and there is also a chocolate room, if you have a sweeter tooth. This close to the Austrian border, cheese and chocolate are a way of life!

SPECIAL OFFER

Stay 7 nights in a Double Room on a breakfast basis, including return economy flights, private transfers and access to the airport lounge on departure from London.
FROM £705 PER PERSON



So why limit yourself to the city when you visit Italy this year, when you can have your Venetian cake and eat it too – along with all that lovely cheese and chocolate!

Ca'Sagredo is close to the famous Rialto Bridge on the Grand Canal and makes a great starting point for any sightseeing tour of Venice. A museum in its own right, the hotel offers majestic rooms with views of either the canal itself or a choice of city vistas. There is a plethora of great shops and restaurants in the vicinity of the hotel, however, you won't want to pass up the opportunity to dine at the hotel's own restaurant, **L'Alcova**. The restaurant's panoramic terrace offers splendid views of the grandest of the city's canals as well as the Rialto market on the opposite bank where much of the food on your plate will have been sourced. The hotel can arrange for you to dive – and hopefully not fall – into Venetian life with a masterclass in the art of the gondolier, or you can take a more leisurely tour, delving into cuisine of the city or the history of the Doges.



SPECIAL OFFER

Stay 7 nights in a Classic Room on a breakfast basis, including return economy flights, private transfers and access to the airport lounge on departure from London.
FROM £1,225 PER PERSON



SPECIAL OFFER

Stay 7 nights in a Superior Charm Beach Villa on a breakfast basis, including return Emirates economy flights, private transfers and access to the airport lounge on departure from London.
FROM £3,135 PER PERSON



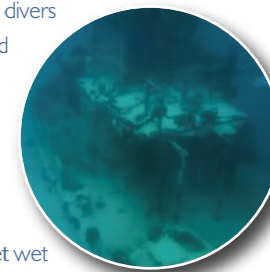
VIVANTA BY TAJ – CORAL REEF, Maldives

Whether you're heading to the Maldives for the diving or just for the chance to lie out on a perfect beach, shaded by coconut palms, sipping an iced cocktail you want your hotel to be luxurious and special. Welcome to Vivanta by Taj – Coral Reef Maldives.

With a private reef and the resort's own sunken shipwreck, snorkelers and divers will be spoilt for choice and the abundance of marine flora and fauna here means there is certainly plenty to see under the water. There is also the chance to just get your feet wet as you paddle in to help with the stingray feeding, so even those who prefer a beach towel to a snorkel can still feel at one with nature. A host of excursions are available if you wish to venture further afield, while on the resort you'll find contemporary American, Italian, pan-Asian and South American cuisine to excite your palate when hunger strikes.

You have your choice of water villa or beach villa here, with the beach villas offering space to sprawl and easy accessibility to the lagoon. Offering up to 66 square metres of space, the beach villas are as comfortable and contemporary as they are exotic, offering the best of Maldivian life blended with the peak of five-star sophistication. With a choice of view, a large bed facing your vista, elegant outdoor shower illuminated naturally, well-appointed internal bathroom, your private deck with daybed, 24-hour room service and a minibar with a selection of organic juices and beverages, you may not want to go out at all!

Vivanta by Taj – Coral Reef Maldives is just a short speedboat ride from the main airport so you're minutes from touchdown to feet up. What's stopping you?



A FAMILY AFFAIR...

Cyprus has it all where the weather is concerned – dazzling Mediterranean sun ensures it's always warm and inviting while cooling sea breezes prevent it ever getting too hot. The perfect destination for the perfect resort, and that's where you'll find **Anassa**.

With a wide selection of rooms, suites and villas – with many of the suites available as interconnecting family accommodations – Anassa has options for all types of holiday groups from single travellers and couples to large family get-togethers. The award-winning Thalassa spa makes the most of the available natural resources and inspiration with a range of marine treatments, and there are plenty of sports facilities available to keep yourself in trim, should the temptation to indulge at Anassa's eight bars and restaurants prove too great. And with the Cypriot lifestyle being an important reason to visit the island, the weekly Anassa Village Fair will be an event to enjoy, bringing alfresco dining and a chance to experience Mediterranean life like the locals.

Families are very well cared for here, with Anassa's baby-go-lightly service making everything the youngest travellers need available at the drop of a hat. The dedicated *Explorers Children's Club* sits in a shady position close to the beach and is open to all children from four months to eleven years old, with a mosaic pool favoured by children, sleep area, milk kitchen, and specialist carers and Rangers ready to guide the smaller people through some big holiday adventures.

SPECIAL OFFER

Stay 7 nights in a Garden Room on a breakfast basis, including return economy flights into Paphos, private transfers and access to the airport lounge on departure from London.

FROM £1,840 PER PERSON



Warm sun and a warmer welcome, along with award-winning facilities and the finest of foods and comforts – why look further than Anassa?

Verdura Resort, a Rocco Forte hotel, Sicily
Italian but not quite Italy, Sicily is the largest island in the Mediterranean and historically has been hotly contested by every ancient civilisation in the region and for very good reason. Rocco Forte's Verdura Resort makes the most of island's cultural heritage and sun-drenched locale, making for a wonderful European destination.

By the numbers, Verdura Resort covers 230 hectares, has two kilometres of private coastline, three golf courses, a 60-metre infinity pool, six tennis courts, four restaurants, five bars and one world class spa – but the whole is a lot more than the sum of its parts. The facilities here mean you'll always have something to do, eat, drink or see which makes this an excellent family resort offering cooking classes, excursions, and *Verduland Kids' Club* which is complimentary for children aged 4-12. The location and choice of restaurants also lend themselves to romantic getaways, so whether it's a cosy couple's vacation or a family holiday, Verdura is an outstanding choice.

The resort has recently launched three new villas – *Acacia*, *Peonia* and *Mimosa* – and will launch three more this year – *Agave*, *Tilia* and *Iris* – which all offer 3-4 bedrooms with a private pool and terrace. A private courtyard, king-size four-poster and stunning beach views will give you a real feeling of classic villa living and afford you a strong hint as to why the ancient Greek, Roman and Carthaginian empires all wanted to call Sicily their own.

SPECIAL OFFER

Stay 7 nights in a Deluxe Room on a full-board basis, including return economy flights, private transfers and access to the airport lounge on departure from London.

FROM £1,665 PER PERSON



FAMILY FUN OR ROMANTIC GETAWAY, SPORTS FAN OR BEACH-DWELLER, VERDURA RESORT HAS ALL THE OPTIONS COVERED IN SICILY THIS SUMMER...





Bequia



Bequia, The Grenadines

by Claire Metharam, Head of Product - Caribbean, Indian Ocean & Far East

I hadn't been to the Caribbean for probably 15 years so I was delighted to have the opportunity to reacquire myself with the region earlier this year. I travelled to Bequia, a small island in the Grenadines. And I wasn't disappointed. Everyone kept saying, Oh, it's like the Caribbean was 20 years ago. Not the Caribbean I knew that long ago. Bequia is truly charming, a simple way of life with a truly Caribbean vibe. The Grenadines is well known for the yachting fraternity, and if I'm honest I'd probably think it wasn't "my scene" but I was truly surprised by how un-encroaching life on the waves is to the land lubber's enjoyment of the islands. The bays are full of yachts of all shapes and sizes, with 'convenience boats' offering laundry services, ice, espressos, you name it, bobbing in the blue.



Bequia Plantation Hotel

My view of the bay was enjoyed from the recently renovated **Bequia Plantation Hotel**, a charming property to base yourself for a stay on the island, just a stone's throw from Port Elizabeth where you'll find a whole host of eateries and bars, one boasting the best lobster pizza on the island. Alas I didn't have the opportunity to sample the fayre, but it's on my hit list for a return visit!

Whilst in The Grenadines it would have been a crime not to have taken a boat trip through the islands. A 90 minute spin in a speedboat took us to Tobago Cays Marine Park (TCMP) which houses a series of globally significant habitats including coral reefs, sea turtle nesting sites and feeding areas, and small systems of mangroves. The marine portion of the park surrounds five uninhabited cays, the populated island of Mayreau, and three islets. The four-kilometer long Horseshoe Reef, the longest of the four main reef systems in the TCMP, encloses four of the cays (Petit Bateau, Petit Rameau, Baradal, and Jamesby) with the fifth cay (Petit Tabac) lying just outside the reef. Seriously, a day I will never forget.



The Liming

The autumn will see a new address on Bequia's map. **The Liming**, a boutique 5-star property of just 9 villas set amongst the natural beauty of the island. Five-Star Luxury is a new concept in Bequia but the standard of resort promises something very special indeed. I, for one cannot wait for my return visit to master the art of doing nothing and of course, to try that pizza!

Mallorca

by Alicia Beauteament,
Product Manager - Europe & Italy



Belmond La Residencia and Deia itself can only be described as magical. My trip began on arrival into Palma where I was met at baggage claim and my case was taken to my luxury transfer. After perusing the "music menu" for my journey, I decided Flamenco Chill was the way to go whilst being driven through the beautiful Mallorcan hills.



Belmond La Residencia

One of the first things that struck me when arriving at La Residencia was how close and central it was to Deia, the entrance being on the main street along with the wonderful restaurants, shops and cafés, and the hotel itself, once in the grounds feels like you could be a mile away from the village. It has the perfect combination of serenity and calm at the hotel, and having the life and soul of the village right on your doorstep.

The hotel itself blends in beautifully with surrounding traditional Mallorcan architecture, and is actually somewhat of a Tardis considering how much they have to offer! After checking in I enjoyed a coffee on the terrace with Belmond's usual impeccable service, fantastic views and the hotels very own homemade truffles and biscuits (very tasty, I recommend the white chocolate and coconut balls!). The terrace of **Café Miro** is a hub of activity where passers-by pop in for drinks as well as hotel guests, it truly is the heart of the hotel and offers spectacular views whilst dining as well. **Café Miro** use their own olive oil (also delicious), and the waiter's recommendations are definitely to be trusted, everything was fabulous. (cont'd...)



Belmond La Residencia

I decided to sample the delights of the spa on my first afternoon and opted for a back massage, heavenly, and just what I needed after being up since 2 am! And of course a spa afternoon wouldn't be complete without a swim and a visit to the sauna and outdoor Jacuzzi.

The hotel being set into the hillside ensures that every room has a view whether you're in a standard double or presidential suite. I can highly recommend the Executive Junior Suites with a plunge pool – I've never had such a spectacular setting for breakfast or an afternoon dip. Having the option for breakfast in your room is also a great feature, allowing you to indulge in all the wonderful fruits, pastries and dishes like French toast with local honey, all on the privacy of your terrace.

Evenings at La Residencia are just as delightful as the days, as the sun sets, the Deia hills are bathed in orange light all whilst the hotels pianist plays Ravel's Bolero, and I'm enjoying a glass of Majorca's Mare Gin & Tonic. After aperitifs at **Café Miro's** terrace, I had a superb five course dinner at **El Olivio**, La Residencia's romantic a la carte restaurant with their very own original olive press centred in the building. The local restaurants and bars also have a lot to offer, **La Fontana** being the quirky favourite bar half way down the hill where bohemian locals and holiday makers alike can dance the night away.

To read more of our Travellers Tales,
visit our dedicated online blog;
blog.azurecollection.com



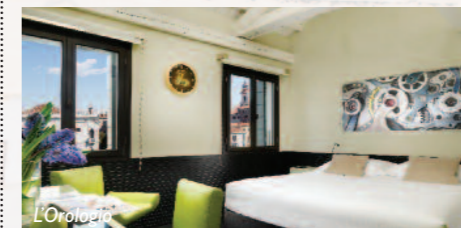
Simply scan the code using your phone
and head straight to the site.

Venice

by Julie Crump, Specialist Sales Consultant



We arrived at Venice's Marco Polo airport and were shown to our private water taxi and a short trip over gentle waves to **L'Orologio** hotel where a welcoming lunch was already laid out for us. In fact, everything about L'Orologio was welcoming and the service we received was utterly impeccable.



L'Orologio

The accommodations here are pleasingly minimalist and modern, and there are also a handful of apartments – perfect for families. Named for the owner's collection of timepieces, L'Orologio's décor reflects this fascination with clocks and watches and its location close to the Rialto Bridge means we didn't need to waste any time getting to the sites and sounds of Venice.

After an afternoon walking around the local area, we spent the early evening at **Aman Venice** hotel. Set in a 16th-century palazzo on the Grand Canal, it is home to museum-quality treasures including Tiepolo frescoes, gilded ceilings and centuries-old leather wall coverings – a fine location indeed and one which has hosted celebrity shindigs including George Clooney's wedding. We had drinks here soaking in the atmosphere before walking to the **Ca' Sagredo** hotel for dinner, handily located opposite L'Orologio on the Grand Canal. Ca' Sagredo is a 15th century palace and National Monument which still preserves the untouched beauty of an ancient noble residence.



Aman Venice

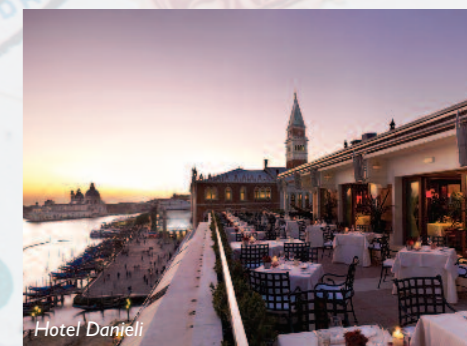
Our breakfast was a prelude to a 2 hour guided walking tour of Venice finishing up at the **Baglioni Hotel Luna** for lunch. Located just off St. Marks Square and overlooking San Giorgio Island and the San Marco Basin, this hotel has traditionally styled rooms with period furniture – no replicas here – and original Murano chandeliers.

Lunchtime led to a stroll through the streets as we made our way back to our hotel to change for our visit to **Gritti Palace** and cocktails in **Bar Longhi**. Gritti Palace is steeped in history and this shines through in the grace, elegance and timeless style of every room. Glass chandeliers drip from the high ceilings, expansive windows allow light to flood in and tapestries adorn the walls, telling tales of a Venetian history gone but not forgotten.

After sipping our cocktails we found ourselves seated for dinner at the **Terraza Panoramic Restaurant** at **Hotel Danieli**, a hotel which dominates the Venetian lagoon just a stone's throw from the Bridge of Sighs and the famous sights of Piazza San Marco. Antiques and works of art are found throughout this palatial building and give a real sense of occasion to dinner. Dinner was superb but we didn't expect to go paddling afterwards! The rising "Acqua Alta" tides had meant the water levels rose to the point we needed to buy ourselves wellington boots and wade back to L'Orologio – all good fun and the basis for some very amusing holiday snaps.



The Gritti Palace



Hotel Danieli

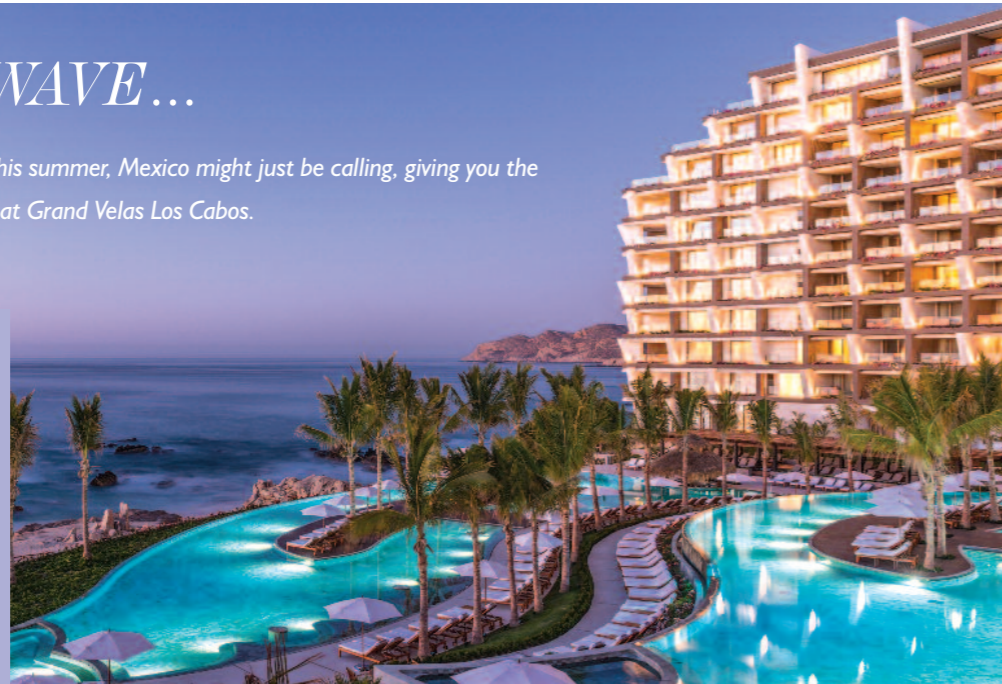
A MEXICAN WAVE...

If you're looking for all-inclusive luxury this summer, Mexico might just be calling, giving you the chance to consider spending some time at Grand Velas Los Cabos.

This all-inclusive all-suite resort's beaches are lapped by the waters of the Sea of Cortez and the mighty Pacific Ocean, a fantastically rich environment for all manner of sea-life including the biggest fish of them all, the whale shark. Scuba diving and snorkelling here are excellent, thanks to the marine life on show and the warm and exceptionally clear waters. Eight different whale species come to breed here, giving visitors a unique chance to see these beautiful leviathans in their natural habitat, up-close and personal. Surfing and other watersports are all readily available nearby too, as are a wide choice of dining options including local and international menus and gourmet fine dining. Given the location, you would expect this resort to have an excellent seafood offering and you'd be right – don't leave without enjoying a poolside ceviche or a surf & turf dish featuring world-famous Wagyu beef.

The choice of suite depends on your holiday mood. The Ambassador Suites give space to lounge and relax, while the Grand Class suites up the ante with a private plunge pool to allow for intimate moments in the sun. If massages and pampering are your thing, the stunning Wellness Suites bring all that to you, with organic amenities and a spa concierge service to ensure you always have the right therapist in-suite after you've made use of the private fitness equipment or had a nibble of the fresh, healthy snacks in your minibar.

Luxury all-inclusive is a very easy and enjoyable way to holiday, leaving you to just relax and make the most of your time, so why not go ahead and include yourself this summer at Grand Velas Los Cabos?



SPECIAL OFFER

Stay 7 nights in a Ambassador Pool Suite on an all-inclusive basis, including return economy flights, private transfers and access to the airport lounge on departure from London.

FROM £4,995 PER PERSON



Secrets Akumal Riviera Maya, MEXICO

Mexico's Riviera Maya is perfectly situated to catch the best of the Caribbean climate and give access to world-class golf and some real historical treasures, and **Secrets Akumal Riviera Maya** is in the ideal spot to make the most of all of this and more.

Akumal has one of the best beaches in Mexico, along with a native green turtle population which adds to that tropical feel and makes for an enchanting snorkelling destination. This adults-only resort offers Unlimited-Luxury® inclusions, with nine restaurants and 24-hour room service – as well as a 24-hour café if you'd rather have a sociable midnight snack – so you'll never have to look far for a tasty meal, and you'll never have to wait for it.

The resort offers a plethora of activities from cocktail classes and dance lessons to archery and rifle shooting, or you can just lie on one of the country's top ten beaches and soak up the sun. There are 434 suites here, some of which are swim-out suites, allowing you to step from your bedroom straight into the pool. The resort features a world-class spa and access to some of the best golf courses in the Americas, so rest and play are so well taken care of you'll find it easy to forget about work.

Secrets Akumal Riviera Maya is an adults-only resort in the heart of ancient civilisation, so why not come and enjoy all it has to offer this summer.

SPECIAL OFFER

7 nights in a Junior Suite Tropical View on an all-inclusive basis including return economy flights, private transfers and access to the airport lounge on departure from London.

FROM £3,295 PER PERSON



Those in the know will head to the Dominican Republic this year and seek out an exclusive gated community that is home to Unlimited-Luxury®. Those in the know will uncover the secret of **Secrets Cap Cana Resort & Spa**.



An exclusive gated enclave in the Caribbean sun and Unlimited-Luxury®? Come and share the Secrets.

Unlimited-Luxury® is how Secrets Cap Cana Resort & Spa describes their all-inclusive offering, and they have hit the nail right on the head. Limitless access to gourmet dining options, no reservations required. Unlimited international and domestic top-shelf spirits. Round the clock room service. Poolside wait-staff. Daytime activities, theme parties, nights of fun – all included and no wristbands in sight. The same expansive approach has been taken to the accommodations, with even the entry level Junior Suites occupying 55 square metres, giving you ample space to spread out and enjoy your surroundings.

With ten restaurants – seven gourmet a la carte, one grill, one relaxed café and one buffet – you will find a lot of options when hunger strikes, and you'll never need to make a reservation. You may, however, make a reservation at a participating sister resort as part of the privileges of Unlimited-Luxury®. Guests of Secrets Cap Cana will have the chance to Sip, Savor & See at all Secrets, Breathless, Dreams, Now and Sunscape Resorts & Spas in the region.

SPECIAL OFFER

7 nights in a Junior Suite Tropical View on an all-inclusive basis including return economy flights, private transfers and access to the airport lounge on departure from London.

FROM £2,955 PER PERSON



DREAMS LOS CABOS SUITES GOLF RESORT & SPA, Mexico

Mexico has it all for a great summer holiday – perpetual sunshine, splendid beaches, warm and sparkling seas, and at Dreams Los Cabos Suites Golf Resort & Spa, eight championship standard golf courses to while away your days on. Dreams Los Cabos Suites Golf Resort & Spa holds AAA Four Diamond Resort status, and it shows. With fine dining, spacious and welcoming accommodations, and three pools including one for kids as well as an adults-only pool with swim up bars. A private beach, outdoor cinema and state-of-the-art fitness centre – as well as a top-class Dreams Spa by Pevonia® – give you plenty of ways to spend your days if golf isn't your thing. But if it is, you're in for quite a treat with three premium golf courses very nearby giving you the chance to sink birdies while the waves of the Sea

of Cortez crash on the rocks below. With its cooling traditional design, Dreams Los Cabos Suites Golf Resort & Spa is an easy place to relax and just enjoy being you. The resort's 240 suites have all been recently renovated so they are both up to date and charmingly traditional, with private terraces and stunning ocean views to enjoy over and over again. With four a la carte restaurants, a buffet, a grill and a cafe to choose from your meals will be many and varied and will include outstanding seafood, elegant fine dining, casual snacks and more. If you have time to eat that is, what with activities like speed boat tours, whale-watching, scuba diving and beachfront camel rides available. **Take a look at Mexico this summer. It might be just what Dreams are made of.**



SPECIAL OFFER

7 nights in a Junior Suite Ocean View on an all-inclusive basis including return economy flights, private transfers and access to the airport lounge on departure from London.

FROM £3,815 PER PERSON

On a private bay on the Caribbean shores of Mexico's Yucatan peninsula is where adults can find paradise this summer. Or Paradisus, to be precise. Paradisus Playa del Carmen La Perla is an adults-only resort offering all-inclusive luxury, giving you a chance to get away for a romantic break without having to think about a thing. And all-inclusive here certainly means a lot – 14 restaurants and 16 bars – with the restaurants plating up everything from a freshly-

prepared breakfast buffet to a 5-diamond awarded gourmet dinner*, and everything in between. And in terms of accommodation, the choice is vast too with a wide variety of suites including swim-ups where you can step straight out of bed into the pool. Opting for Royal Service places a personal butler at your disposal for the very height of luxury. If exploring is in your mind, this resort is only a short drive from Cancun airport making it easy to reach and close to

historical sites such as Tulum, Chichen Itza and Coba, making off-site adventure very accessible. This area of Mexico boasts a number of fantastic golf courses too, so sporting days out are on hand as well. The hotel offers complimentary Green fees (Conditions apply). You may prefer to spend your time at the resort though, playing water volleyball, enjoying a tequila- or wine-tasting session, or visiting the full service spa.

*Surcharge applies.

Paradisus Playa del Carmen La Perla, Mexico



A luxury resort with a host of restaurants and bars, and no kids in sight? Sounds like Paradisus, doesn't it?



SPECIAL OFFER
Stay 7 nights in a One Bedroom Suite on an all-inclusive basis, including return economy flights, private transfers and access to the airport lounge on departure from London.
FROM £2,125 PER PERSON

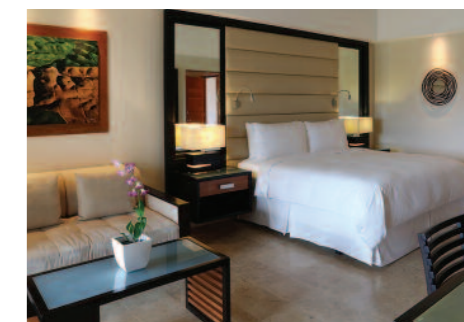


Getting your golf clubs out during a British summer can be a frustrating affair, not knowing if the weather is going to allow for a full 18 holes, or whether you need your waterproofs or your sunglasses. Not so at **Casa de Campo** in the Dominican Republic where you can rely on three championship courses and almost endless sunny days.

This stunning 7,000 acre resort is home to a marina, polo and tennis facilities, three golf courses including the famous Teeth of the Dog course, a private beach and an expansive choice of rooms, suites and villas. Eight restaurants, each with its own distinct identity, provide sustenance while half a dozen bars are on hand to shake your thirst. An excellent spa is found here, ready to take care of those cramps after a long flight and if you're travelling with children, there are kids' treatments available too so you can do everything as a family if you choose.



Historical excursions can be arranged for those who like to get an understanding of the local area, or you can enjoy the view from the saddle as you ride horses along the beach. Adventurers can find jungle treks and zipwire rides to keep the adrenalin flowing, and for those who have chosen a villa to return to every evening you'll find your staff waiting, your private pool full, and your smile never-ending.



SPECIAL OFFER
Stay 7 nights in an Elite Patio Double on a breakfast basis, including return economy flights, private transfers and access to the airport lounge on departure from London.
FROM £2,685 PER PERSON

Grand Velas Riviera Maya, Mexico



Mexico can be a wonderful destination for family breaks, romantic getaways or rejuvenating holidays, and at **Grand Velas Riviera Maya** three distinct experiences have been tailored to help you make the most of your time away.

The *Grand Class* experience is designed for couples, though children over 16 are welcome too. Your choice of a suite with private terrace and plunge pool awaits, along with fine dining and options like a seaside picnic, a couples massage or a marine adventure to an eco-archaeology park under the sea. What better way to reconnect with a loved one than by enjoying sunset with champagne, gazing at each other in pampered bliss, or communing with nature together? The *Ambassador* experience is geared towards family fun, with games on the



beach, a Kids' Club, snorkel tours and much more. Almost 200 suites are dedicated to families here, with jacuzzi bathtubs, luxurious king size beds, and close proximity to the fun that happens along the sandy beach. For those who want to feel at one with their inner selves, the *Zen Grand* experience is all about relaxation. Accommodations are set in the Mayan jungle, allowing you to experience more of the natural world around you, where you have the opportunity to explore via a sea kayak journey or take a photo safari and learn to take great nature photos. Whichever you choose, the luxury all-inclusive amenities of a beautiful resort are all yours to enjoy at Grand Velas Riviera Maya.



SPECIAL OFFER

Stay 7 nights in a Zen Grand Suite Nature View on an all-inclusive basis, including return economy flights, private transfers and access to the airport lounge on departure from London.

FROM £3,280 PER PERSON



DREAMS DOMINICUS LA ROMANA

If you're lying awake at night wondering where you can take the kids this summer, tossing and turning over whether to go all-inclusive or not, agonising over the destination, rest easy and dream of Dreams Dominicus La Romana.

The all-new Dreams Dominicus La Romana is ideal for family holidays, with plenty to keep young minds occupied including the *Explorer's Club for Kids* and *Core Zone Teens Club* where they can socialise and make new friends. Pool games, dance lessons, beach volleyball, ping-pong, movies on the beach, snorkelling and more – there is enough going on during the day to give everyone somewhere to be. Theme nights and live entertainment keep the mood going into the evening, and babysitting services are available for when you fancy a night out to yourselves.

The junior suites sleep up to four people, and larger suites are available, so staying together isn't a problem here. Neither is eating together, as you can amble up to any of the seven restaurants on a whim and pull up a chair, no need to call ahead or check availability – although *Bordeaux*, the resort's romantic French restaurant is adults-only, making it perfect for a night out without the kids. All other restaurants are open to all ages and offer varied menus to put smiles on everyone's faces.



So go ahead, book this stylish resort in the Dominican Republic this year and give yourself restful nights and sweet Dreams.

SPECIAL OFFER

Stay 7 nights in a Deluxe Tropical View on an all-inclusive basis, including return economy flights, private transfers and access to the airport lounge on departure from London.

FROM £2,165 PER PERSON

NEW to AZURE...



Baglioni Resort

Maldivian luxury meets Italian style with the opening of **Baglioni Resort** on Maagau Island in late summer 2018, just 40 minutes by seaplane from the main airport. There will be a mere 96 villas on the island, allowing for freedom to explore without the crowds, and as Baglioni have built a considerable name in elegant and graceful living, you can be sure this is a hotel you'll want to visit, especially for those who appreciate the finer things.

We also have another Maldivian resort new to the Azure Collection, although it's been open for about 18 months now. **St. Regis Maldives** will be new in our brochure for 2019. This resort is stylish and modern without sacrificing anything in comfort, and the same can be said for the hotel's *Azimut* flybridge 66 yacht, available to guests by arrangement.



Six Senses Kaplankaya



Six Senses Kaplankaya



LUX* Bodrum



Baglioni Resort



St. Regis Maldives



St. Regis Maldives

We're also doing the opposite to Brexit and going further into Europe, expanding our portfolio with new openings in Turkey including Six Senses and LUX*. **LUX* Bodrum** is a new resort on the Turquoise Coast, situated on a private peninsula and featuring one of the most desirable beach clubs in the region. **Six Senses Kaplankaya** features in these pages and will be prominent in the collection going forward, just as it sits prominently in a location of historical significance close to two of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.



LUX* Bodrum

Bequia in the Grenadines also has a new opening this year, and it's the island's first and only five-star resort – **The Liming**. In the Caribbean, liming is the art of doing nothing except relaxing with good food and good company, whiling away the day in sunshine and that's exactly what this hotel is designed for – carefree, lazy days of summer. Also close by in the Caribbean is Grenada, and **Silversands** with its iconic 100-metre pool right by the beach and beautifully uncluttered accommodations making it the perfect getaway if you're bored of St. Barths.



The Liming



Silversands



Silversands



Velaa Private Island Maldives

Those who enjoy the luxury lifestyle enjoy the Cote d'Azur so we couldn't really not include it, especially with France being so accessible from the UK. Don't forget to look out for our riviera resorts in the brochure this autumn. Also, we're including **Iceland**, a paradoxical frozen expanse shielding a core of volcanic energy. And if you want to see polar bears in the wild, you'll have a better chance here than in the Indian Ocean!



Talking of which, we also have one more Indian Ocean hideaway to tell you about, **Velaa Private Island Maldives**, a collection of luxury suites and villas bringing you the best of this most exclusive of destinations. Make sure you see the full Azure Collection later this year for all these and many more.

The Azure philosophy is to inspire people not just to travel but to see and sample the very best our world has to offer. To order any of our 2018 brochures please visit: azurecollection.com



CHILD'S PLAY

The word "Barbados" conjures up images of perfect white beaches, fruity cocktails, frolics in the surf and lazy days of luxury. **Saint Peter's Bay Luxury Resort & Port Ferdinand Marina** brings you all this and more - much more.



Saint Peter's Bay Luxury Resort & Residences



Saint Peter's Bay Luxury Resort & Residences



Port Ferdinand Marina

Idyllic beaches, fantastic accommodations, great food, attentive and caring staff, and one of the most desirable destinations in the world all come together to make Saint Peter's and Port Ferdinand perfect.



Port Ferdinand Marina

Days in the sun can be as full as you want them to be at Saint Peter's Bay and Port Ferdinand with a beachfront or marina location, freshwater pools and array of watersports. A trip by private water taxi can take you between each property – stay seven nights or more and enjoy a complimentary turtle tour. You can also try kayaking or stand-up paddle-boarding among other watery activities. And if all that makes you hungry, a selection of restaurants are open and serving fine fresh local produce along with an enviable wine cellar. Newly opened on the beach at Port Ferdinand is the New Nikki Beach Club and guests of Saint Peter's Bay and Port Ferdinand have exclusive access – it's the hottest place to be seen on the island. The residences are perfect. Port Ferdinand and Saint Peter's Bay are exceptional, family destinations with accommodation perfect for small and large families as well as extended families covering multiple generations. A year-round Kids' Programme offer activities like reef fishing, movie nights, hiking, sailing and more, giving children not just a holiday but a chance to gain new experiences and learn new skills. Fully-trained staff are here to help you make sure your children enjoy Saint Peter's Bay and Port Ferdinand every bit as much as you do.

SPECIAL FAMILY OFFER

Stay 7 nights in a 2 Bedroom Beachfront Villa on a breakfast basis, including return British Airways World Traveller flights, private transfers and access to the airport lounge on departure from London.
FROM £6,895 PER FAMILY OF 4 (2 x Adults & 2 x Children)



South Africa is home to some of the world's finest hotels, a haven for exotic wildlife and one of the globe's best-known wine producing regions. At **One&Only Cape Town**, you can be guaranteed a sighting of the Big 5 – the Big 5 grapes of South Africa, that is.

One&Only Cape Town's Big 5 Vineyard Safari brings visitors back year on year to take this Land Rover tour through the mountains to visit Warwick's vineyards, and a chance to liken the Big 5 Animals with South Africa's Big 5 grape varieties. If you like wine, wildlife, or just getting out and about to enjoy the scenery, it's a perfect trip which will give you a new insight into wine. It's also suitable for all ages – wine for you, animals for the kids – so the whole family can enjoy it together. There are a host of other packages available at



One&Only Cape Town too, including a chance to make sushi under the expert tutelage of Nobu's head sushi chef, an introduction and discussion of South African art, a tour of the Cape's fine living districts, and how about urban food foraging, a chance to visit artisan producers and sample nibbles you may not get anywhere else? There's also a chance for a curated wine tour with the resort's head sommelier – more for the grown-ups this one! – and enjoy a Bacchanalian masterclass under expert guidance. Cape Town is often seen as a great entry point to South Africa or a great place to take a breather after a safari holiday before heading home. One&Only Cape Town proves itself a destination all of its own.



SPECIAL OFFER

Stay 7 nights in a Marina Harbour Room on a breakfast basis, including return British Airways World Traveller flights, private transfers and access to the airport lounge on departure from London.
FROM £2,560 PER PERSON

One&Only

Cape Town



AZURE

journey our world of luxury

CARIBBEAN, THE AMERICAS, EUROPE, NORTH AFRICA, SOUTHERN & EASTERN AFRICA, ARABIAN GULF, INDIAN OCEAN, ASIA, AUSTRALASIA

Valerie House, 21 Castle Street, Chester, United Kingdom CH1 2DS

Tel 01244 322770 Fax 01244 322771

e-mail sales@azurecollection.com azurecollection.com

All prices are based on 2 people sharing unless otherwise stated. Subject to availability. Conditions apply.

