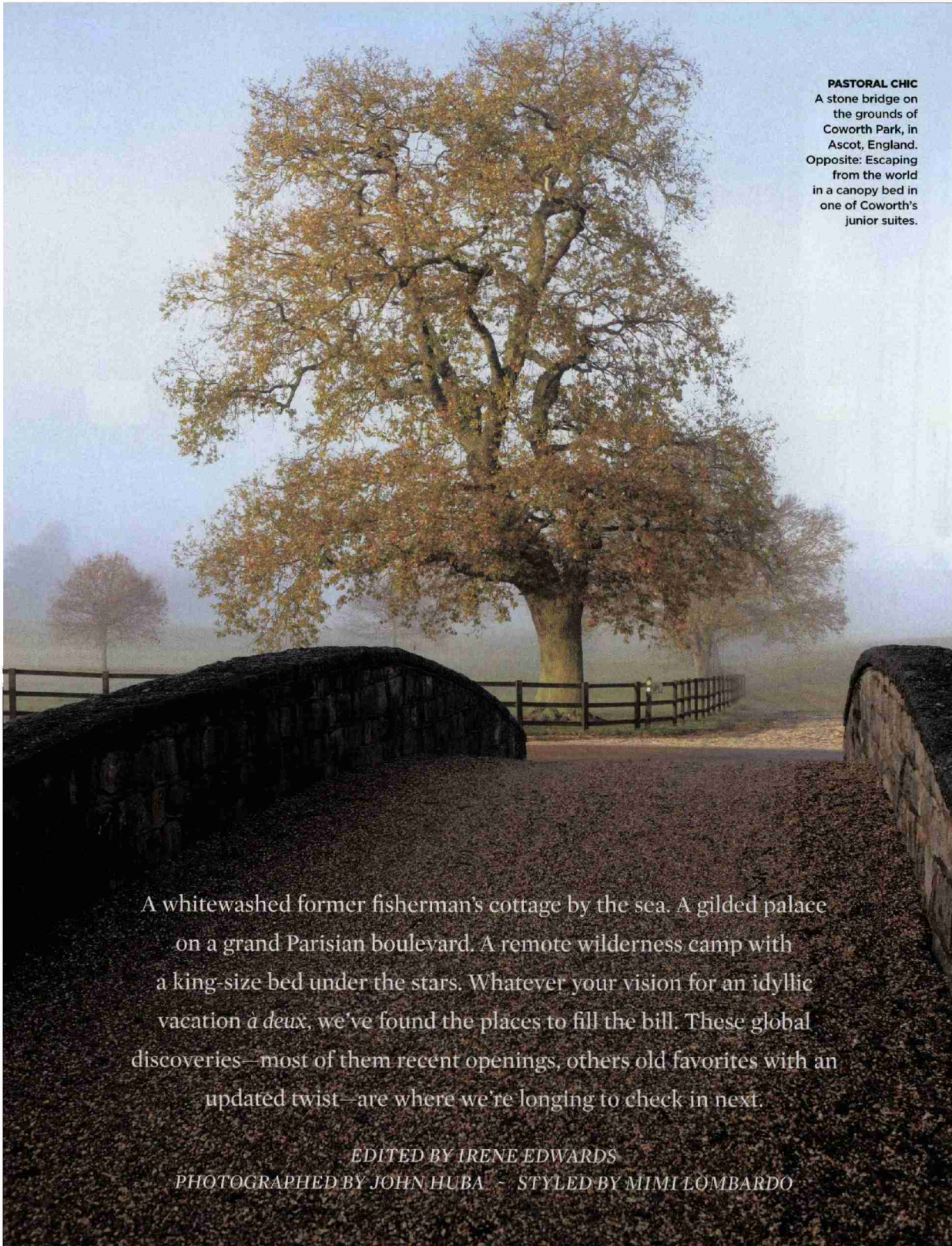


MODEL: LUSY HOLT/MODELS 1; HAIR AND MAKEUP: NADINE WILKIE/CAROL
HAVES; MAKEUP: JESSIE BARDY; STYLISTS:
ALEXANDER TORRES; BLOUSE BY CHANEL. SEE BUYER'S GUIDE, PAGE 111



PASTORAL CHIC
A stone bridge on the grounds of Coworth Park, in Ascot, England. Opposite: Escaping from the world in a canopy bed in one of Coworth's junior suites.

A whitewashed former fisherman's cottage by the sea. A gilded palace on a grand Parisian boulevard. A remote wilderness camp with a king-size bed under the stars. Whatever your vision for an idyllic vacation *à deux*, we've found the places to fill the bill. These global discoveries—most of them recent openings, others old favorites with an updated twist—are where we're longing to check in next.

EDITED BY IRENE EDWARDS
PHOTOGRAPHED BY JOHN HUBA - STYLED BY MIMI LOMBARDO



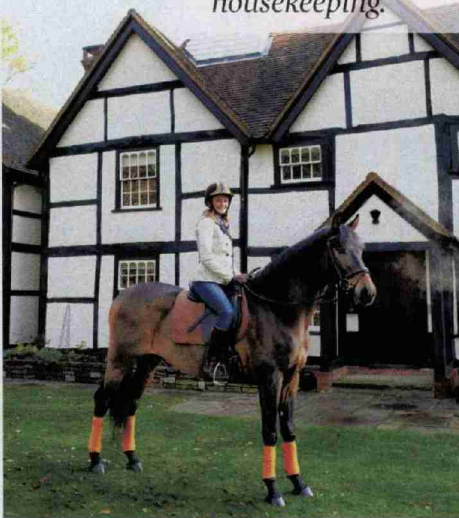
country retreat

**COWORTH PARK
 BERKSHIRE, ENGLAND**

LOVE IS IN THE AIR at this reinvented Georgian manor set on 240 acres of private parkland near Windsor Castle, 45 minutes outside London. In fact, the very sentiment is spelled out in capital letters in the contemporary light fixture over the bar. The Dorchester Collection's first country-house hotel was designed by British firm Fox Linton, which cleverly balanced the gravitas of a grand estate with whimsical flourishes worthy of a stylish aristocrat. The 70-room property pays homage to genteel rural pursuits with polo ponies on the lawn, a staff suited in mocha tweeds, leather-covered vanity tables, and equestrian-themed artwork. Guests can doff their muddy Wellingtons after a ramble in the woods; linger over smoked salmon finger sandwiches and Silver Needle Yin Zhen tea in the drawing room; and thumb through *The Book of Idle Pleasures* while soaking in a deep copper tub. In the main restaurant, chef John Campbell's roast suckling pig with pork and bacon jus is a sumptuous pleasure all its own. *Blacknest Rd., Ascot; 44-1344/876-600; coworthpark.com; doubles from \$365.*



Our favorite in-room details: a deck of horse-themed playing cards; the bedside call button to summon housekeeping.



TO THE MANOR BORN
 From top: The Terrace at Coworth Park's Mansion House; ready to ride in front of the property's three-bedroom Dower House; a bespoke copper rolltop tub overlooking acres of parkland. Opposite: The drawing room, where afternoon tea is served.



5 more country retreats

E.B. Morgan House

AURORA, NEW YORK
 One of two lakeside inns in buildings owned by Wells College, the 1858 former residence was reimagined, top to toe, by American Girl doll creator Pleasant Rowland—part of a one-woman beautification campaign in a historic Finger Lakes town. Splashes of persimmon, apricot, and melon energize rooms furnished with pieces from Rowland's own collection. **Most welcoming nook** The firelit library, stocked with board games and books such as a volume of aerial photographs of Finger Lakes waterfalls. **GREAT VALUE** 431 Main St.; 866/364-8808 or 315/364-8888; aurora-inn.com; doubles from \$175.

Glen Oaks Big Sur

BIG SUR, CALIFORNIA
 Just off California's most dramatic stretch of coast, this recently expanded cluster of cabins and lodge rooms was made for sybaritic nature lovers. The setting sweeps from redwood-studded hills to the banks of the Big Sur River, and sustainable touches such as bamboo floors and organic cottons stay true to the region's eco-minded ethos. **Bracing seaside stroll** Head 4½ miles to hidden Pfeiffer Beach, where the surf crashes against jagged rock formations along purple (yes, purple) sand. **GREAT VALUE** Hwy. 1; 831/667-2105; glenoaksbigsur.com; doubles from \$155.

El Cigarral de las Mercedes

TOLEDO, SPAIN
 American expat Jayne Gunderson and her husband, Fernando Lleida Arcas, who comes from a distinguished line of Spanish hoteliers, turned a 12-acre olive and citrus farm into a venue for weddings, then opened 21 rooms for overnight guests. Interiors combine mementos from the couple's travels—French antique desks, Kenyan objets d'art—with furnishings handcrafted by Toledan artisans. **Rendezvous spot** The 200-year-old oak tree, overlooking Toledo and

the historic estates along the banks of the Tagus River. 72 Crta. Piedrabuena; 34/92-525-2064; cigarraldelasmercedes.com; doubles from \$200.

Aldeia da Cuada

AZORES, PORTUGAL
 On this westernmost European archipelago, an abandoned 18th-century village of tumbledown stone cottages was renovated into a folksy rural getaway—lace curtains; iron beds with homemade quilts—against a jaw-dropping landscape. Basalt paths lead to waterfalls and deep calderas known as the Seven Lakes, and the greenness of the surrounding valley resembles J.R.R. Tolkien's Middle-earth. **Best place for a picnic**

At one of the outdoor tables high above the Atlantic, with a loaf of bread and a wedge of cheese from the dairy in the nearby town of Fajãzinha. **GREAT VALUE** Flores; 351/292-590-040; wonderfulland.com/cuada; doubles from \$80.

House of Jasmines

Estancia de Charme
SALTA, ARGENTINA
 Ancient eucalyptus trees flank a long and stately drive leading to the family-run estancia, 15 minutes outside Salta in Argentina's subtropical northwest. Four new guest quarters (three of them suites) recently joined the 10 existing rooms, all furnished with exquisite taste by co-owner Stéphanie Fenestraz: embroidered sheets; cowhide rugs; antique slipper chairs and love seats covered in white linen and draped with indigenous textiles. The sweet-smelling jasmine shrubs that give the property its name are joined by vegetable gardens and a fruit orchard. **Place to lounge** The sofas around the huge open hearth in the new La Table de House of Jasmines restaurant, which specializes in hearty regional cuisine—from locro stew to meat-filled empanadas. **GREAT VALUE** Km 11, Ruta Nacional No. 51, La Merced Chica; 54-387/497-2002; houseofjasmines.com; doubles from \$230.



coastal getaway

**GOLDENEYE
 ORACABESSA, JAMAICA**

JET-SET BOHEMIANS and creative types have flocked to GoldenEye since the mid 20th century, when it was the cliff-top retreat of Ian Fleming, who wrote 14 of his James Bond novels here. Fresh from a two-year overhaul courtesy of its current owner, Island Records founder Chris Blackwell, the property has morphed from private villa rental to full-fledged 22-room hotel. But thanks to Blackwell's irrepressible, highly personal touch, the mood remains the same: a tropical playground for well-traveled expats from some latter-day Noël Coward play. Amid gardens of banyan and mango trees, the new waterfront cottages have ultramodern amenities (kitchen appliances by Renzo Piano) and design flourishes from Blackwell's stylish friends (including Barbara Hulanicki of Biba and Pink Sands fame). Fleming's original three-bedroom villa is available for booking and still features the writer's own desk, carved out of Jamaican red bulletwood and surrounded by louvered windows looking out to the sea. *Oracabessa Bay, St. Mary; 876/975-3354; goldeneye.com; doubles from \$536.*

THIS SPREAD PHOTOGRAPHED BY JESSICA SAMPLE



ISLAND TIME
 From top: Lounging on a daybed in one of GoldenEye's new Beach villas; grilled lobster with jerk butter from chef Conroy Arnold; a veranda nook overlooking the lagoon. Opposite: Outside one of the new Lagoon suites, where the decks lead to water's edge.



Seaside lullaby: Each room at GoldenEye comes with a sound system programmed with Island Records music, so you can let Bob Marley croon you to sleep.

5 more coastal getaways

Turtle Beach Bungalows at Christophe Harbour ST. KITTS

Four hand-hewn wooden pavilions stretch along the sand dunes on quiet St. Kitts. Although it's part of Christophe Harbour—ultimately destined to become a 2,500-acre development with a 300-acre marina and an 18-hole, Tom Fazio-designed golf course—for now, this feels like a true hideaway, complete with private plunge pools and direct-from-your-patio access to the ocean. **Top table** Beach House, the hotel's restaurant, is the best on the island, specializing in seafood from the Basseterre market (we recommend the wahoo tartare). *Turtle Beach, Southeast Peninsula; 800/881-7180 or 869/466-4557; turtlebeachbungalows.com; doubles from \$550.*

Rancho Pescadero TODOS SANTOS, MEXICO
 Live the life of a refined beach bum at this wellness-focused Baja Peninsula resort, owned by an American former CEO who traded the corporate world for a simpler life by the surf. Most of the 27 suites face the water, and shaded daybeds, swimming pools, and mangrove trees dot the grounds. Guests get complimentary use of surfboards, boogie boards, and bicycles for cavorting on land or sea. **Morning jolt** A smoothie of locally made yogurt and tropical fruit is a delicious refresher after a 9 a.m. yoga class in the oceanfront pavilion.

GREAT VALUE Parcela No. 53, San Juan de Dios; 910/300-8891 or 52-1612/135-5849; ranchopescadero.com; doubles from \$200, including breakfast and daily yoga classes.

Cas'almare PAVIGNANA, ITALY
 A simple cottage built from golden tuff stone was recently converted into this waterfront enclave on Sicily's rugged, picturesque Favignana Island, a summer destination for Italians in the know. The intimate hotel—just five guest rooms, a breakfast room, and

a central living area awash in soothing seaside colors—is furnished in chic Euro fashion (bold Ingo Maurer light fixtures and canopied beds with Bellora linens). Contemplate the turquoise Mediterranean from a teak table at the adjoining beach club, then take to the waters on one of the hotel's two boats. **Best spot to soak all day** Room No. 4's freestanding bathtub, perfectly positioned in front of the window to catch the ocean breeze. *Strada Comunale Frascia; 39/335-492-929; casalmarefavignana.com; doubles from \$260.*

Sankara Hotel & Spa YAKUSHIMA, JAPAN
 A sense of mystery and magic pervades this secluded retreat on a southern Japanese island covered in old-growth cedars. The 28 airy suites and villas have teak furniture and rattan lamps fashioned by Balinese craftsmen, but interiors are decidedly Japanese, with sliding screens and delicate porcelain cups from Kyoto. **Dinner for two** Chef Chiharu Takei can craft personalized meals from locally sourced ingredients: a risotto of Asahi crab and bamboo shoots, for example, followed by grilled Nakayama sirloin in a yuzu-and-pepper sauce. *553 Haginoue, Mugio, Yakushima-cho, Kumage-gun, Kagoshima; 81-997/473-488; sankarahotel-spa.com; doubles from \$515.*

Anantara Kihavah Villas BAA ATOLL, MALDIVES
 A quick seaplane ride from the capital of Male lands you on a private island ringed by white sand, coconut palms, and a reef that harbors schools of tropical fish. Ask for an overwater villa, then dine at one of the world's only underwater restaurants while gazing out at the ocean floor. **Into the deep** A dive master leads expeditions to search for gentle whale sharks in parts of the Indian Ocean beyond the Baa Atoll. *011-960/750-8400; anantara.com; doubles from \$1,170.*



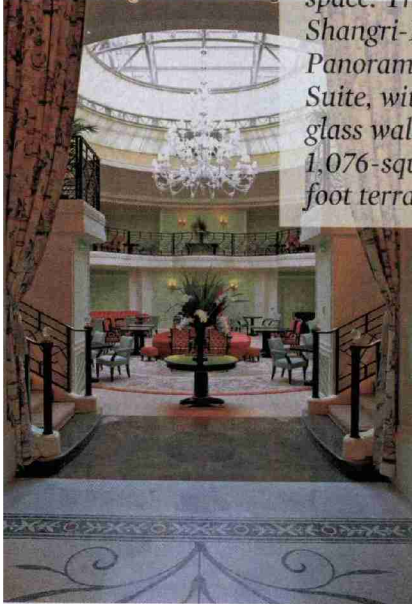
city escape

**SHANGRI-LA HOTEL
 PARIS**

AN ECLECTIC GEM, the newest Shangri-La was originally built for Prince Roland Bonaparte, Napoleon's grandnephew, who took up residence at the *hôtel particulier* from 1896 until his death in 1924. Since then, it's been carved up into luxury apartments. (American decorator Elsie de Wolfe lived large here in the 1930's); turned into a government building; then painstakingly restored in a manner worthy of its gilded, hand-painted, mosaic- and mahogany-trimmed heyday. Interior designer Pierre-Yves Rochon drew upon the Directoire and Empire periods—with a dash of Asian fusion—to appoint each of the 81 rooms and suites, reimagining them as Parisian *pieds-à-terre*. Half the rooms have Eiffel Tower views, and nearly that many (although none at entry-level rates) feature private terraces or balconies. The renovation's biggest surprise: after being covered up for 55 years, a glass dome from 1929 now crowns La Bauhinia, one of the hotel's three restaurants. 10 Ave. d'Éna, 16th Arr.; 866/565-5050 or 33-1/53-67-19-98; shangri-la.com; doubles from \$990.

MODEL: MICHELLE QUELLET/WOMEN MANAGEMENT; HAIR AND MAKEUP: DOMINIQUE GREGUIGU/AGENCE CAROLE; ASSISTANT FASHION EDITOR: JESSIE BARDY/STYLIST: ASSISTANT: SARAH ODIGAN; SKIRT: AND SHOES BY HERMES; BAG: CARTIER; SCARF: TIFFANY & CO.; BELT: SALVATORE FERRAGAMO

Most opulent space: The Shangri-La's Panoramic Suite, with its glass walls and 1,076-square-foot terrace.



URBAN SPLENDOR From left: La Bauhinia restaurant at the Shangri-La, Paris; an 1896 stained-glass window in the second-floor gallery; breakfast in bed in the Panoramic Suite. Opposite: Stepping out beneath the wrought-iron canopy at the hotel's main entrance.

6 more city escapes

Setai Fifth Avenue, a Capella Managed Hotel NEW YORK CITY

The rush of midtown Manhattan becomes a hazy, glamorous blur from inside this cocoon of a hotel, a stellar example of streamlined maximalism (rosewood and marble flow in from Milan; walk-in closets big enough for a family of four). Part of a 60-story tower, the hotel features uniquely faceted windows angled downward for almost dizzying views of New York glittering at your feet.

Hot and cold The Auriga spa is perfect for couples; relax in between treatments at the Aqua Lounge, which has an otherworldly hammam and a "chill room" with a trough of herb-infused ice. 400 Fifth Ave.; 877/247-6688 or 212/695-4005; setaififthavenue.com; doubles from \$595.

The Redbury LOS ANGELES

The latest from developer Sam Nazerian of SLS Hotels, the 57-room Redbury gives guests

preferred access and car service to its buzzy sister properties—including XIV restaurant and the Colony nightclub. The splashy décor was masterminded by the hotel's creative director, fashion photographer Matthew Rolston. **Signature scent** The Redbury's own fragrance, a rich plumeria with Oriental notes, wafts through the building—and the valet-parking station. 1717 Vine St.; 323/962-1717; theredbury.com; doubles from \$299.

Centurion Palace VENICE

It's a canal-side palazzo with a twist: Each of the 50 rooms in the 19th-century monastery turned merchant's residence—located on one of the best spots on the Grand Canal—forsakes traditional grandeur for a design-forward sensibility, thanks to bleached-wood floors and sinuous, vibrantly hued sofas. **Best for secret serenades** The echoing arcade in the courtyard, centered around an ancient well and a bamboo garden,

Dorsoduro 173; 39-041/34281; centurionpalacevenezia.com; doubles from \$286.

Soho House Berlin

The creative energy is palpable at this boho 40-room boutique hotel, once home to the Communist Party archives and now the most fashionable address in the arty Mitte district. **Coziest quarters** While certainly not the largest, the attic rooms—with fire-engine red bed frames and rain showers—have a quirky *La Bohème* feel. **GREAT VALUE** 1 Torstrasse; 49-30/405-0440; sohothouseberlin.com; doubles from \$130.

Straits Collection

PENANG, MALAYSIA Capitalizing on the city's evocative history, owner Narelle McMurtrie converted two rows of Chinese shop houses into 10 suites that call to mind early-20th-century Asia. Antique doors inset with colored glass, latticed wood dividers, and a reading room in a former coffee roastery,

along with the sounds of trishaws pedaling by, add era-appropriate ambience. **Movie night** Asian films are projected each evening in the courtyard of the hotel's Kopi Cine Café.

GREAT VALUE 47-51 Stewart Lane and 89-95 Armenian St., Georgetown; 60-4/263-7299; straitscollection.com; doubles from \$128.

Palais Amani

FEZ, MOROCCO

Ensclosed in the heart of the medina, this *riad* underwent a 3½-year restoration that enhanced its existing features—mosaic-adorned walls and floors in Fez's signature shade of vibrant blue—with copper work, embroidery, and calligraphy from some of the most skilled artisans in town. **Prime lookout** Misriah 2, accessed by a mosaicked staircase, is the only room with a rooftop terrace and expansive views of the medina. **GREAT VALUE** 12 Derb El Miter, Oued Zhoune, Hay Blida; 212-535/633-209; palaisamani.com; doubles from \$175.

(Continued on page 128)

Romantic Hotels

(Continued from page 109)

epic adventure

ARKABA STATION FLINDERS RANGES NATIONAL PARK, AUSTRALIA

DEEP IN THE South Australian outback, 4½ hours from Adelaide, Arkaba Station—a 19th-century sheep ranch turned luxury lodge—feels remote enough for most. But for an even more thorough immersion in the landscape, the 1856 homestead's walking safaris may just be the ultimate means of getting away from it all. Guides Kat Mee and Brendon Bevan lead groups of up to eight on a four-day, 30-mile route through Flinders Ranges National Park, known for its centuries-old river red gum trees

and hills covered in pompon-like golden wattle. (Your bags await each evening at camp, along with a three-course dinner and a hot outdoor shower.) Plush beds and feather duvets on open-air wooden platforms ensure a good night's rest, although the wilderness doesn't lack for background noise: Listen for the call of kookaburras and magpies at dawn and dusk, a kind of outback melody. **Star struck** The constellations never seemed so bright; ask your guide to point out the Southern Cross and Scorpio, which shimmer across a huge swath of sky. 61-2/9571-6399; arkabastation.com; from \$1,950 per person for a four-day tour, all-inclusive. ✦

REPORTED BY Nicole Alper, Jennifer Chen, Christine Ciarmello, Alice Gordon, Jaime Gross, Tina Isaac, Stirling Kelso, Alison Miller, Shane Mitchell, Kathryn O'Shea-Evans, Dorkys Ramos, AND Ed Stocker.

5 more epic adventures

Ranch at Rock Creek

PHILIPSBURG, MONTANA
It's a 100-mile drive from Missoula International Airport to this 6,600-acre spread, but the posh high-mountain pampering is worth it. Ponds are full of trout, cabins come with well-stocked wine fridges and claw-foot tubs, and spa treatments are tailor-made for two. **Cabin to book** Built from fallen wood found on site, the secluded Trapper Tent has its own hot tub, gas fireplace, and etched-glass windows overlooking Rock Creek. 79 Carriage House Lane; 877/786-1545; theranchatrockcreek.com; from \$900 per person, including meals and most activities.

Hotel Kakslautanen & Igloo Village

SAARISELKÄ, FINLAND
In the vast Lapland wilderness, towering pines loom above 40 fireplace-equipped log cabins and 20 domed "igloos" of thermal glass. From December through April, you can also stay in one of eight real igloos built from snow and equipped with down sleeping bags. The real draw is the almost surreal setting from which to watch the northern lights—currently on the rise until this cycle's

peak in 2015. **Elopement alert**

The seasonal snow chapel provides a fairy-tale mood for a winter wedding (Finnish ceremony and wedding cake optional). **GREAT VALUE** 13 Kilopääntie; 358-16/667-100; kakslautanen.fi; doubles from \$185.

El MaPi Hotel Machu Picchu

CUZCO, PERU
A façade decorated with eucalyptus branches marks the entrance to [Inkaterra's](http://inkaterra.com) newest property, a more affordable alternative to the group's Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel. It's an ideal getaway for couples whose idea of romance is a high-altitude trek: the stripped-down yet comfortable rooms don't distract from the beauty just beyond your door, and the breakfast buffet is loaded with hiker-friendly fare. **Afresco bath time** At night, head for the natural hot spring ringed by tiny candles. **GREAT VALUE** 109 Avda. Pachacutec, Machu Picchu Pueblo; 51-1/610-0404; elmapihotel.com; doubles from \$200.

Rasa

JAIPUR, INDIA
Channel a modern-day maharajah in one of 40 futuristic tented cubes at this cutting-edge Rajasthani

compound. Each canvas-walled structure comes with wrought-iron lanterns, an oversize four-poster bed, and an open-air pavilion, with the awe-inspiring Amber Fort as backdrop. **Mood lighting** Paper-thin latticework curtains act as alluring filters for the sun's rays. *Kunda, NH-8, Tehsil Amer District; 91-124/488-8011; sterlinghotels.com; doubles from \$360.*

Olarro

MASAI MARA, KENYA
On a hill in a private reserve within the Maji Moto Group Ranch, owned by the local Masai people, this eco-lodge was designed by Anthony Russell, the architect-conservationist behind the award-winning Shompole. The curvaceous thatched-roof structure, built to blend in with the undulating landscape, houses seven guest cottages with whitewashed walls, exposed beams, and polished flagstone floors. **Amazing race** The lodge borders the area's wildebeest migration route. Get a front-row seat on your veranda, or book a helicopter ride for a bird's-eye view of the action. *Masai Mara National Reserve; 254-721/921-966; olarrokenya.com; doubles from \$1,370, all-inclusive.*

BUYER'S GUIDE

STYLISH TRAVELER: ICON PAGE 37 David Yurman (David Yurman Townhouse, N.Y.C.; 212/752-4255; davidyurman.com).

STYLISH TRAVELER: TRAVEL UNIFORM

PAGE 40 Tory Burch (866/480-8679; toryburch.com); Catherine Malandrino (Catherine Malandrino, Hudson St., N.Y.C.; 212/929-8710; catherinemalandrino.com); Ivanka Trump Footwear (Nordstrom, 888/282-6060, shopnordstrom.com); Ivanka Trump Fine Jewelry (Ivanka Trump Fine Jewelry, N.Y.C.; 888/756-9912; ivankatrumpcollection.com); Ivanka Trump Handbags (Dillard's; 800/345-5273; dillards.com); Sony (877/865-7669; sonystyle.com); iPad (Apple stores; 800/692-7753; apple.com); BlackBerry (866/662-4548; wireless.att.com); Evian (877/737-4672; sephora.com); Oliver Peoples (310/734-5000; oliverpeoples.com).

INSIDER: SPAS PAGE 66 Nux tank \$45, capris \$45 (nuxusa.com); I Am Beyond tank \$47, pants \$77 (iambeyond.com).

25 MOST ROMANTIC HOTELS COVER Luisa

Beccaria top \$600, skirt \$2,000 (luisabeccaria.com); Kara by Kara Ross earrings \$125 (Nordstrom; see above), bracelets \$275 each (kararossny.com), ring \$195 (Henri Bendel; 800/423-6355; henribendel.com); Baume & Mercier \$10,990 (800/637-2437). **PAGE 102** Chanel \$1,845 (select Chanel boutiques; 800/550-0005; chanel.com). **PAGE 105** Nanette Lepore \$332 (877/537-6734; nanettelepore.com); CH Carolina Herrera \$845 (CH Carolina Herrera New York; 212/744-2076; carolinaherrera.com); Jérôme Dreyfuss \$660 (Jérôme Dreyfuss, N.Y.C.; 212/334-6920; jerome-dreyfuss.com); Usai \$865 (Stanley Korshak, Dallas, 800/972-5959, stanleykorshak.com; usaicollection.com); Longchamp \$275 (Longchamp boutiques; 866/566-4242; longchamp.com). **PAGE 108** Hermès cardigan price upon request; skirt price upon request, shoes \$1,225 (Hermès stores; 800/441-4488; hermes.com); Cartier \$1,850 (Cartier boutiques; 800/227-8437; cartier.com); Tiffany & Co. \$275 (800/526-0649; tiffany.com); Salvatore Ferragamo \$275 (Salvatore Ferragamo boutiques; 800/628-8916; ferragamo.com). **PAGE 109** Dries Van Noten \$1,066 (Bergdorf Goodman, N.Y.C.; 888/774-2424; bergdorfgoodman.com); Kara by Kara Ross \$195 (Henri Bendel; see above); Cartier \$6,100 (Cartier boutiques; see above).