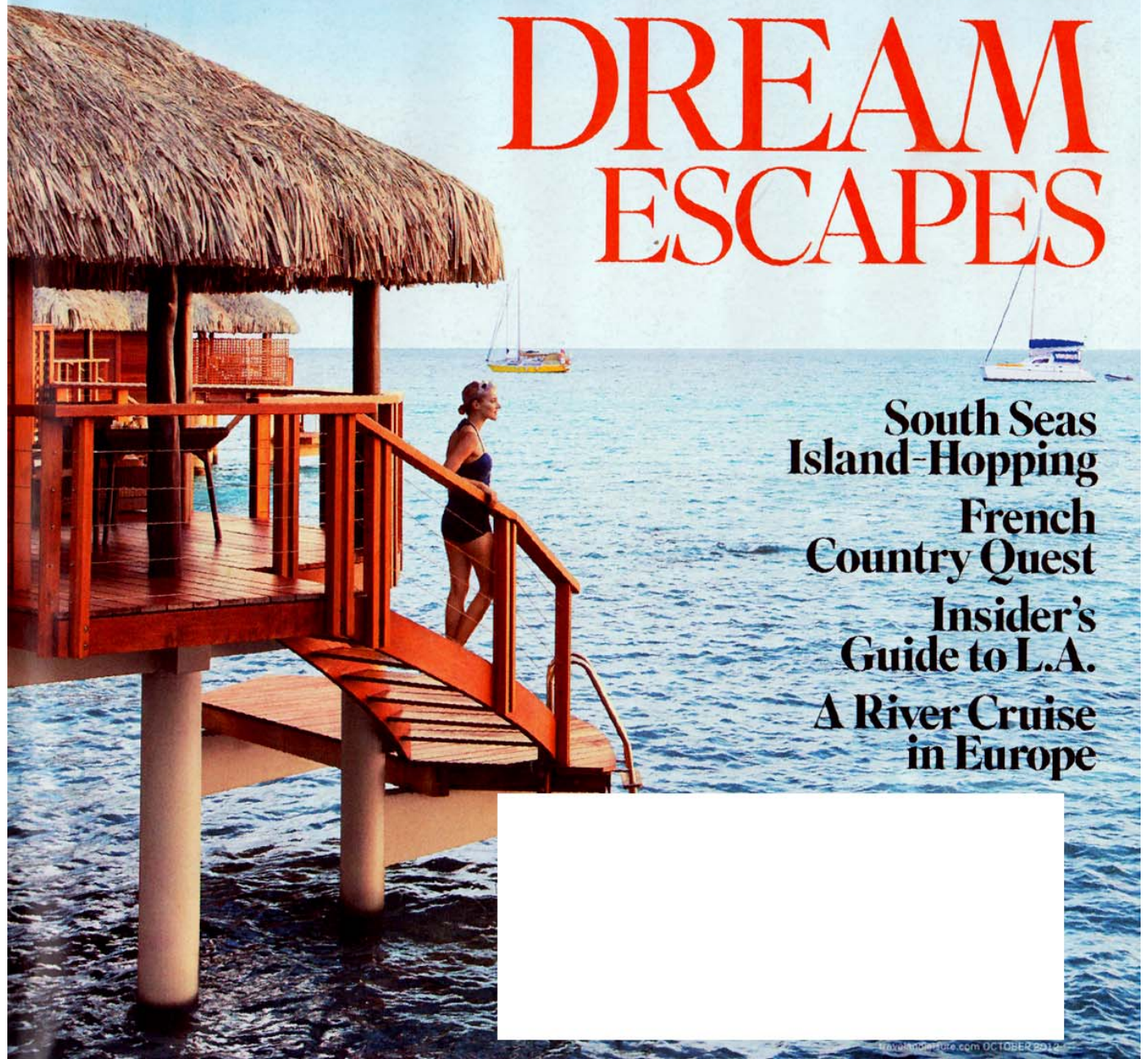


OUR GUIDE TO T+L'S 156 FAVORITE TRAVEL EXPERTS

# TRAVEL+ LEISURE

## DREAM ESCAPES

South Seas  
Island-Hopping  
French  
Country Quest  
Insider's  
Guide to L.A.  
A River Cruise  
in Europe






# World's Best Spas 2012



Utah's Snow Canyon State Park, near Red Mountain Resort, voted the No. 1 destination spa in the world by T+L readers.



T+L readers rank the best places to relax and reboot in our annual poll. Which destination spa is right for you? Take our quick quiz to find out, then turn the page for this year's winners.

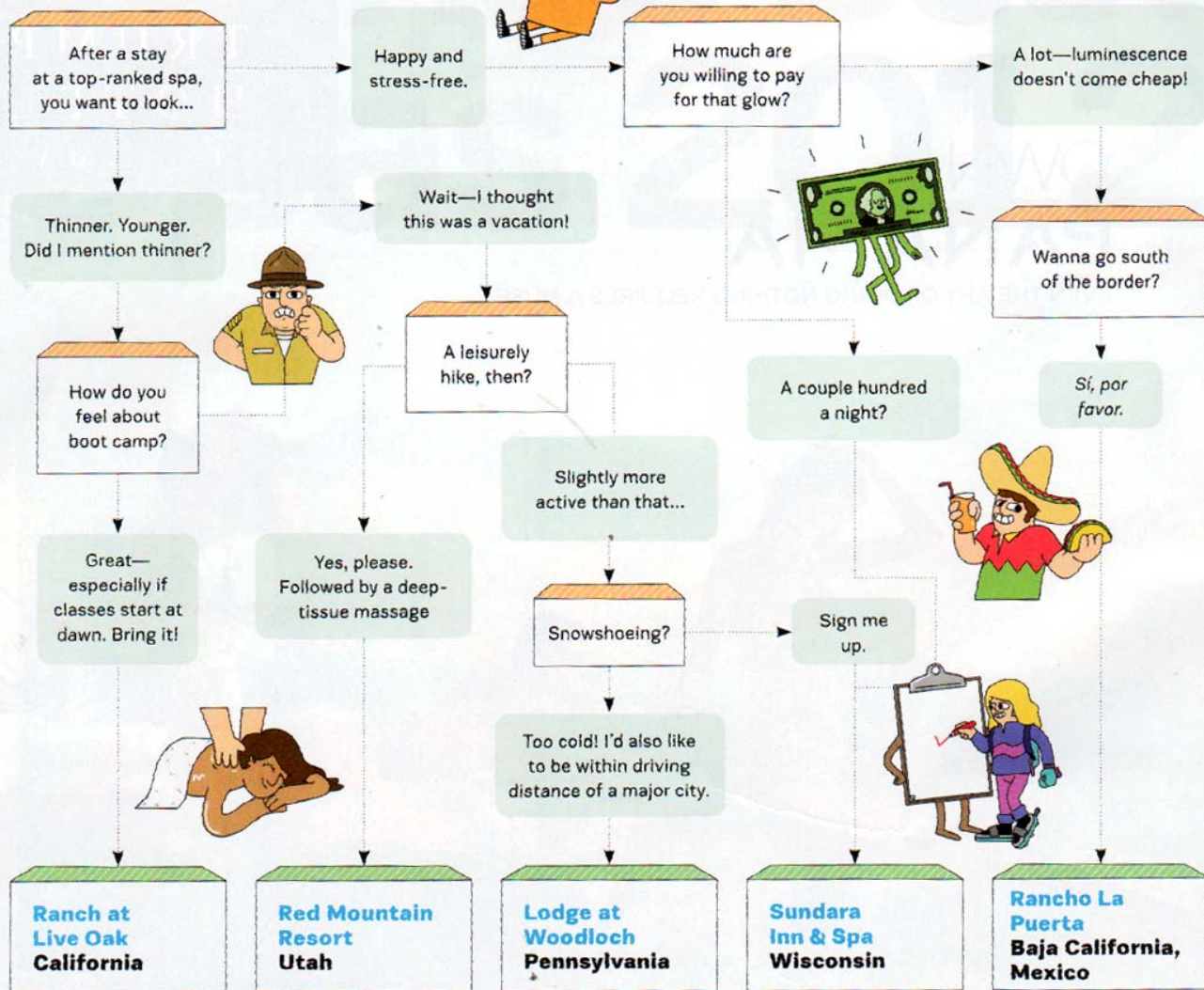
REPORTED BY BREE SPOSATO  
PHOTOGRAPHED BY JESSICA SAMPLE

MODEL: MALIA MAU



# World's Best Spas 2012

QUIZ STARTS HERE



Limited to 16 guests a week, this no-nonsense retreat in Malibu's Santa Monica Mountains puts you through up to 10 hours of activity daily, from intense core exercises to group hiking. Fortunately, you're rewarded each night with a restorative massage (you earned it!). **T+L Tip** Stay in one of the Haile or Indie rooms at the bottom of the hill—you'll sculpt your legs just walking to classes and meals. 888/777-2177; [theranchmalibu.com](http://theranchmalibu.com); all-inclusive; seven days from \$5,600 per person.

Located next to Snow Canyon and an hour from Zion National Park, the property's Sagestone Spa has 14 treatment rooms within a geodesic dome. Fuel up at the Canyon Breeze restaurant, where 500-calorie dinners don't skimp on flavor (try the mushroom-crust ed elk). **T+L Tip** Weekend spa-goers should reserve ahead for the more popular activities, such as guided treks, kundalini yoga, and evening treatments. 877/246-4453; [redmountainresort.com](http://redmountainresort.com); all-inclusive. \$\$\$\$

Escape from urban life at this lakeside retreat on 150 wooded acres two hours northwest of New York City, where hatha yoga sessions are followed by rounds of golf and wine tastings. The 40,000-square-foot spa is made for languid afternoons, thanks to its fireplace-equipped quiet room and hydromassage pools. **T+L Tip** Book the Rosemary Awakening, for its wrap of warm seaweed steeped in the extract of Icelandic moss. 866/953-8500; [thelodgeatwoodloch.com](http://thelodgeatwoodloch.com); meals included. \$\$\$\$

This sanctuary amid 26 forest acres has a pretreatment ritual so soothing you may forget there's more to come: start by scrubbing yourself down with Precambrian sandstone under a rainfall shower, then enter the fragrant steam and dip into the plunge pool. There are fewer activities to choose from than at many other resorts, but that keeps you feeling totally relaxed. **T+L Tip** In winter, snowshoe while spotting eagles as they soar above the Wisconsin River. 888/735-8181; [sundarspa.com](http://sundarspa.com). \$\$

Food is a focus at this Spanish-colonial spa spread over 3,000 acres in the foothills of Mount Kuchumaa, where a new open kitchen (the place for cooking classes and more) is set on the property's organic farm. **T+L Tip** Reserve the often overlooked 3 p.m. treatment slot and you'll find extra peace and quiet; you'll have the rooftop relaxation area, sauna, and steam baths almost to yourself. 800/443-7565; [ranchoalapuerta.com](http://ranchoalapuerta.com); all-inclusive; eight days from \$3,100 per person.



# World's Best Spas 2012



A calming mask at Red Mountain Resort, in Utah.

## Top Destination Spas Overall

1. **Red Mountain Resort** Ivins, Utah 92.00
2. **Rancho La Puerta Fitness Resort & Spa** Tecate, Mexico 91.73
3. **Ranch at Live Oak** Malibu, California 91.13
4. **Lodge at Woodloch** Hawley, Pennsylvania 90.76
5. **Sundara Inn & Spa** Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin 90.40
6. **Mii Amo, a Destination Spa at Enchantment** Sedona, Arizona 90.05
7. **Canyon Ranch Hotel & Spa** Miami Beach 89.04
8. **Miraval Resort & Spa** Tucson, Arizona 88.99
9. **Regency Health Resort & Spa** Hallandale Beach, Florida 88.70
10. **Lake Austin Spa Resort** Texas 88.16

## Top 5 Hotel Spas Continental U.S.

1. **Allison Inn & Spa** Newberg, Oregon 96.05
2. **St. Regis Aspen Resort** Colorado 95.77
3. **Four Seasons Hotel** Las Vegas 95.59
4. **Bardessono Hotel & Spa** Yountville, California 95.00
5. **Terranea Rancho Palos Verdes**, California 94.62

## Top 3 Hotel Spas Hawaii

1. **Grand Wailea** Maui 94.05
2. **Four Seasons Resort Hualalai** Hawaii, the Big Island 94.00
3. **Four Seasons Resort Maui at Wailea** 91.46

## Top Hotel Spa Canada

1. **Fairmont Chateau Whistler** British Columbia 93.42

## Top 3 Hotel Spas The Caribbean, Bermuda, and the Bahamas

1. **Sandy Lane** Barbados 93.85
2. **Couples Sans Souci** St. Mary, Jamaica 93.07
3. **The Reefs** Southampton, Bermuda 92.60

## Top 3 Hotel Spas Mexico

1. **Capella Pedregal** Los Cabos 97.65
2. **Grand Velas Riviera Maya** Playa del Carmen 97.50
3. **Esperanza, an Auberge Resort** Los Cabos 94.85

## Top 5 Hotel Spas Central and South America

1. **Nayara Hotel, Spa & Gardens** La Fortuna, Costa Rica 95.39
2. **Four Seasons Resort Costa Rica at Peninsula Papagayo** 91.20
3. **Tabacón Grand Spa Thermal Resort** La Fortuna, Costa Rica 87.35
4. **Los Sueños Marriott**

**Ocean & Golf Resort**  
Herradura Bay, Costa Rica  
84.09

5. **Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel** Peru 83.00

## Top 5 Hotel Spas Europe

1. **Ritz Paris** (closed until 2014) 94.09
2. **Four Seasons Hotel, Firenze** Florence 93.21
3. **Four Seasons Hotel George V** Paris 92.19
4. **Rome Cavalieri, Waldorf Astoria Hotels & Resorts** 91.25
5. **Le Sirenuse** Positano, Italy 90.77

## Top 5 Hotel Spas Asia

1. **Discovery Shores** Boracay, Philippines 97.50
2. **Four Seasons Resort Bali at Jimbaran Bay** Indonesia 97.00
3. **Mandarin Oriental** Bangkok 95.71
4. **Sofitel Angkor Phokeethra Golf & Spa Resort** Siem Reap, Cambodia 95.65
5. **Capella Singapore** 95.29

## Top Hotel Spa Africa and the Middle East

1. **Twelve Apostles Hotel & Spa** Cape Town 92.50

## Top Hotel Spa Australia, New Zealand, and the South Pacific

1. **Four Seasons Resort Bora Bora**, French Polynesia 91.82

## Buyer's Guide

### ICON: FERRAGAMO

**PAGE 32 Salvatore Ferragamo** Top and skirt, price on request, and wedge (Salvatore Ferragamo, 655 Fifth Ave., N.Y.C.; 800/628-8916; ferragamo.com); suitcase, \$1,800, and loafer (Salvatore Ferragamo stores nationwide).

### RADAR: STYLE

**PAGE 40 MZ Wallace** (MZ Wallace, 93 Crosby St., N.Y.C.; 212/431-8252; mzwallace.com); **Calleen Cordero** (Calleen Cordero, 7384 Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles; 323/934-5541; calleencordero.com); **Valentino Noir** (Bergdorf Goodman; 212/753-7300; bergdorfgoodman.com); **Christian Louboutin** (Christian Louboutin, 965 Madison Ave., N.Y.C.; 212/396-1884; christianlouboutin.com); **Michael Michael Kors** (select Michael Kors stores; 866/709-5677; michaelkors.com).

### TRIP DOCTOR: PACKING

**PAGE 66 Merrell** (800/288-3124; merrell.com); **Hunter Boot** (877/495-1500; hunter-boot.com); **Vince** shirt, \$95, and riding pants, \$235 (Vince, 980 Madison Ave., N.Y.C.; 800/960-2231; vince.com); **Cole Haan** (Cole Haan stores; 800/201-8001; colehaan.com); **Geox** (Geox stores; 866/898-5335; shopgeox.com); **Autumn Cashmere** (888/628-8866; autumncashmere.com).

### TRIP DOCTOR: TECH

**PAGE 66 Duracell Powermat** (888/856-6783; duracellpowermat.us).

### DEALS: TRIP OF THE MONTH

**PAGE 72** Get special access to this month's tour operator through Travel + Leisure Elite Traveler. **Club details** \$29.95 fee for first year of Travel + Leisure Elite Traveler membership for new members, with continuous annual renewal at term rate then in effect unless canceled.

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A minimum number of responses was necessary for a spa to be eligible for inclusion in the World's Best Awards. Scores shown are rounded to the nearest hundredth of a point; in the event of a true tie, properties share the same ranking. For complete survey methodology and more spa winners, go to [travelandleisure.com/worldsbest](http://travelandleisure.com/worldsbest).

Denotes a World's Best debut

Denotes a Great Value (60-minute massages for \$100 or less)