

YTL *Life*

TREASURED PLACES, TREASURED MOMENTS



NEW IN TOWN
Introducing Hotel Stripes
Kuala Lumpur

SYDNEY-SIDE UP
Unveiling the refreshed
Sydney Harbour
Marriott Hotel

SEA BOUNTY
Feasting at
Gaya Island Resort

CHALLENGE EVERYTHING



H₀ ORANGE

THE HYDRO
MECHANICAL
HOROLOGISTS **HYT**

KUALA LUMPUR HYT BOUTIQUE, STARHILL GALLERY, ADORN FLOOR

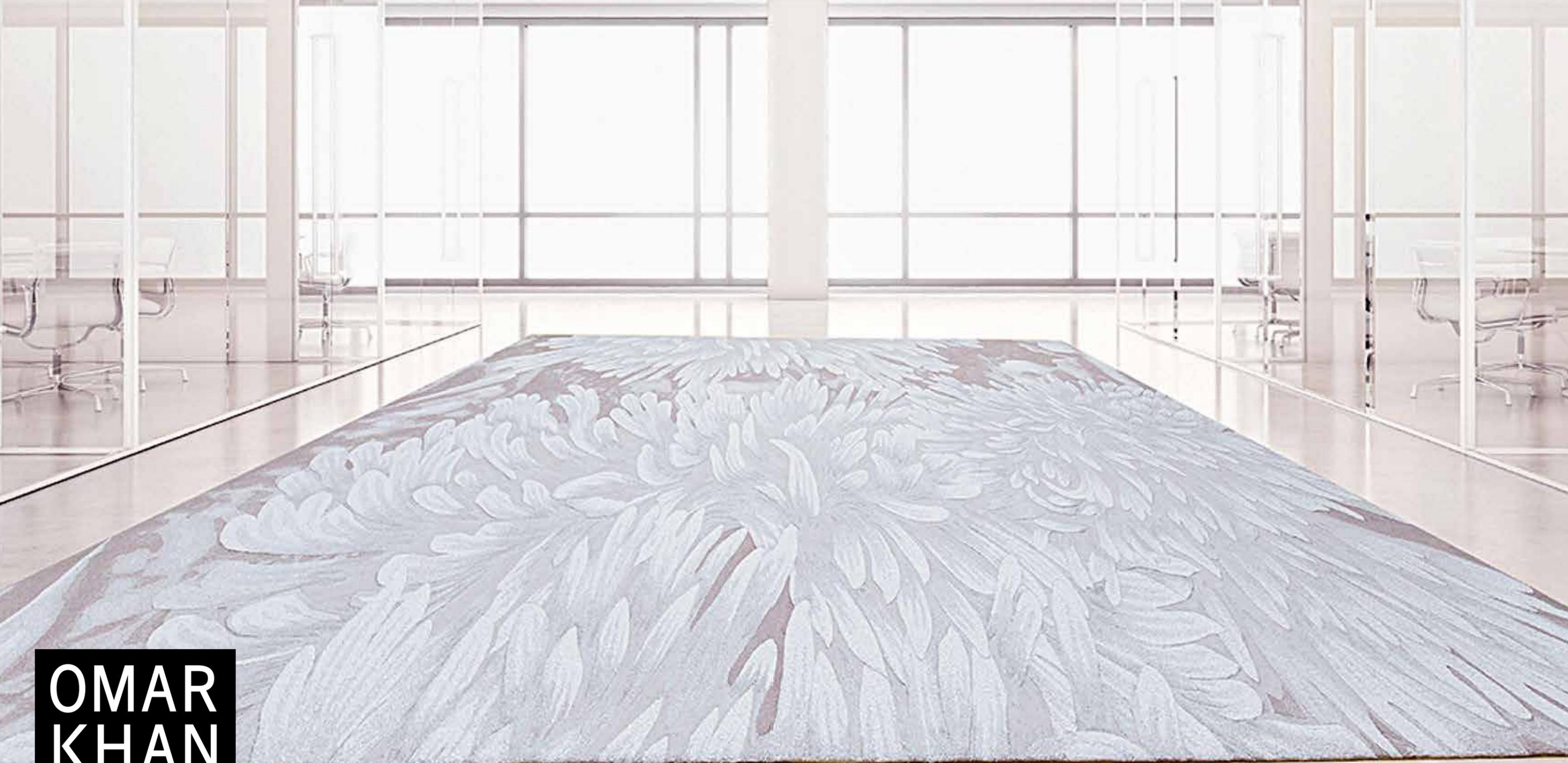
HYTWATCHES.COM



 **ROBERTO COIN**

NEW BAROCCO & CENTO COLLECTIONS

COMING SOON EXCLUSIVELY AT STARHILL GALLERY



**OMAR
KHAN
RUGS**

STATEMENT RUGS

THE FIRST IMPRESSION THE FINISHING TOUCH

WWW.OMARKHANRUGS.COM

LI LING RUG

*Handtufted in wool
and bamboo, carved*



Photo Courtesy: Yuriko Takagi



Journey into a realm of finely wrought jewellery and all aspects of an elegant lifestyle including home décor, travel accessories, furniture and paintings inspired by Asian folklore and culture.



Lotus
Arts de Vivre

Lotus Arts de Vivre Boutique

G2A, Indulge Floor, Starhill Gallery | Monday – Sunday, 11am to 7pm | Tel: 03 2110 1932

The House of Lotus Arts de Vivre

261 Jalan Maarof, Bukit Bandaraya, Bangsar | Monday – Friday, 10am to 7pm | Tel: 03 2095 2555

CONTENTS



PANGKOR LAUT RESORT
ONE ISLAND. ONE RESORT



48

LIFE FEATURE

30

Celebrate memories of a lifetime at The Majestic Hotel Kuala Lumpur

34

Escape to the stunning and secluded Pangkor Laut Estates

38

The best spots for delicious Malay cuisine on an East Coast road trip



42

42

The latest menu offerings at the recently refurbished Feast Village and Fisherman's Cove at Gaya Island Resort

48

Tales of afternoon tea and a host of other British traditions at Cameron Highlands Resort

52

Visiting Chef Lino Sauro expounds his brand of Sicilian cuisine at The Ritz-Carlton, Kuala Lumpur

54

A sampling of Kristang culture at The Majestic Malacca



54



A LULLABY OF LAPPING WAVES COMPOSED JUST FOR YOU.
THIS IS THE PRIVILEGE OF ONE ISLAND, ONE RESORT.

For enquiries or reservations, please contact YTL Hotels Travel Centre at travelcentre@ytlhotels.com or call +60 3 2783 1000

A YTL LUXURY RESORT



www.ytlhotels.com
www.pangkorlautresort.com

YTL HOTELS
Treasured Places, Treasured Moments

18
LIFE ON THE COVER
Hotel Stripes Kuala Lumpur's opening transforms one of the city's best-known neighbourhoods



24

LIFE EVENTS

24

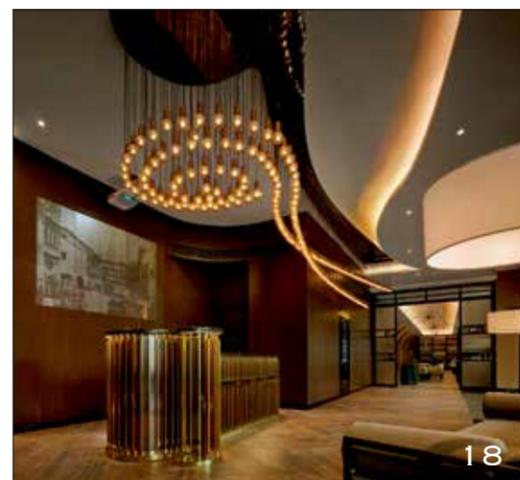
Highlights from this year's Starhill Gallery Fashion Week

26

Thrills and spills: The Chapman's Challenge at Pangkor Laut Resort

28

A collaboration to revive traditional Malay art forms with Pink Jambu, Tenun Pahang Diraja and The Majestic Hotel Kuala Lumpur



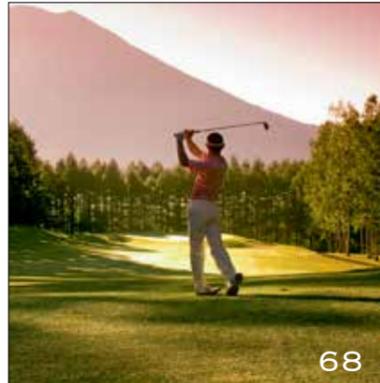
18

CONTENTS

58

DESIGNER LIFE

Our edit of summer fashion essentials presented at Hotel Stripes Kuala Lumpur



LIFE FEATURE

68

High country: where to go, what to do and where to eat in Niseko

72

Culture and the arts: a quieter side to Paradise at Spa Village Resort Tembok, Bali

76

The chic Sydney Harbour Marriott Hotel at Circular Quay ups its game with refreshed interiors and exciting new restaurants



82

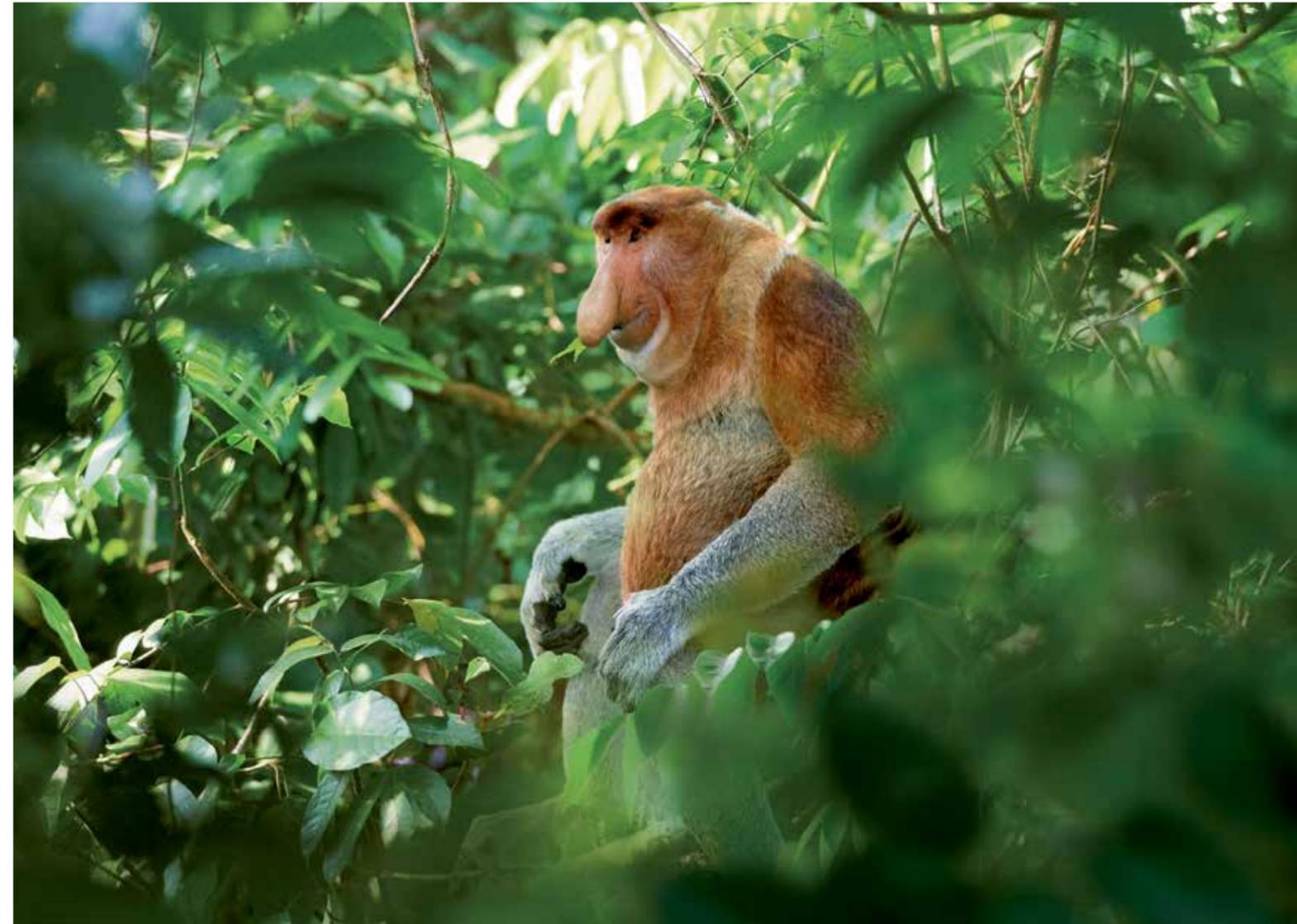
Bath tales: exploring the city of Bath and The Gainsborough Bath Spa

86

Summer sizzle in the south of France at MUSE Saint Tropez

92

Make The Glasshouse Hotel Edinburgh your base when exploring the Scottish capital



Your eyes lock with a Proboscis monkey's for the first time.

It makes a strange noise.

And you don't know whether to stand in awe or run.

Your moment awaits.

For enquiries or reservations, please contact YTL Hotels Travel Centre at travelcentre@ytlhotels.com or call +60 3 2783 1000

A YTL LUXURY RESORT

CONTENTS



96
LIFE STYLE
Presenting an ensemble of the most talked-about high jewellery and timepieces

100
LIFE MOMENTS
12 Things to do in Edinburgh in 48 Hours: we do the planning so that you don't have to

106
PORTFOLIO OF LIFE
The world of YTL Hotels



122
MY LIFE
A chat with Maximilian Busser of MB&F



#OMGB

GREAT BRITAIN. HOME OF AMAZING MOMENTS.

Calton Hill, Edinburgh, Scotland.

visitbritain.com

WELCOME TO
GREAT
BRITAIN

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Kenneth Tan (*k.tan@imv.com.sg*)

EDITORIAL

Editor **Mark Lean** (*m.lean@imv.com.sg*)
Chief Sub-Editor **Jacqueline Danam**
Editorial Assistant **Allisa Noraini**

ART

Group Creative Director IMV
Shabir Mahmood (*s.mahmood@imv.com.sg*)
Project Art Director **Parvez Mahfooz**
Picture Editor **Kenny Nguyen**
Designer **Le Thu Trang**
Designer **Thao Trung**

PRODUCTION

Group Production Director IMV **Anna Tsirelnikova**

CONTRIBUTORS

Diana Hubbell, Renyi Lim, Marco Ferrarese, Simon Pridmore
M Wilson, Vishal Bhaskaran, Kenneth Foo, Prestine Davekhaw
Isabella Plaza, Marcus Wong, Ting Yang Shan

PRODUCTION

Prepress: Asiatype
Printer: Percetakan Zanders Sdn Bhd (205766A)
No. 16, Jalan BK 1/11, Bandar Kinrara, 47180 Puchong
Selangor Darul Ehsan, Malaysia

ADVERTISING SALES AND MARKETING

Director of Sales **Venis Loo** (*v.loo@imv.com.sg*)
Sales Manager **Xana Lai** (*x.lai@imv.com.sg*)
Administrative Manager **Jaelyn Teh** (*j.teh@imv.com.sg*)

PRESIDENT
Michael von Schlippe

COO
Anna Tsirelnikova

PUBLISHED BY

YTL Hotels & Properties Sdn Bhd
8th Floor, Yeoh Tiong Lay Plaza
55 Jalan Bukit Bintang
55100 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

PRODUCED BY

Indochine Media Ventures Sdn Bhd
B-7-13A, Gateway Kiaramas
No. 1, Jalan Desa Kiara
50480 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



Hotel Stripes sits on a piece of land in central Kuala Lumpur where YTL Corporation established its first office. Edgy, sleek and design-aware are descriptions many have conveyed about this hotel that melds effortlessly into its location, where much of the Malaysian capital's history began.

Farther afield, we feature two of our United Kingdom properties: Threadneedles Hotel in the City of London and The Glasshouse Hotel Edinburgh. Both offer unique keys to the cities in which they are located – central locations, conversation-starting design, stellar food and beverage offerings, and of course, the staff, all of whom are committed to delivering the highest service standards – and always with a smile. Visitors to Edinburgh Festival Fringe, the world's largest arts festival, will find The Glasshouse Hotel Edinburgh the perfect base from which to explore the city and its attractions.

In Australia, the Sydney Harbour Marriott Hotel at Circular Quay is yet another exceptional property in an unsurpassed location. We look forward to welcoming you to all YTL Hotels' properties around the world.

As you leaf through the pages of this issue of *YTL Life*, we hope that you are also savouring our exceptional YTL Hotels hospitality. It is our quintessential brand of service that extends, for example, from our thoughtful butlers at Pangkor Laut Estates, the attentive *serveur* at 'M', the all-day-dining restaurant at MUSE Hotel Saint Tropez, and the personable front desk staff at Hotel Stripes Kuala Lumpur, part of Autograph Collection Hotels.

CAPITAL COOL

THE RECENTLY UNVEILED HOTEL STRIPES KUALA LUMPUR IMPARTS A STYLISH EDGE TO ONE OF THE CITY'S OLDEST NEIGHBOURHOODS.

Words MARK LEAN

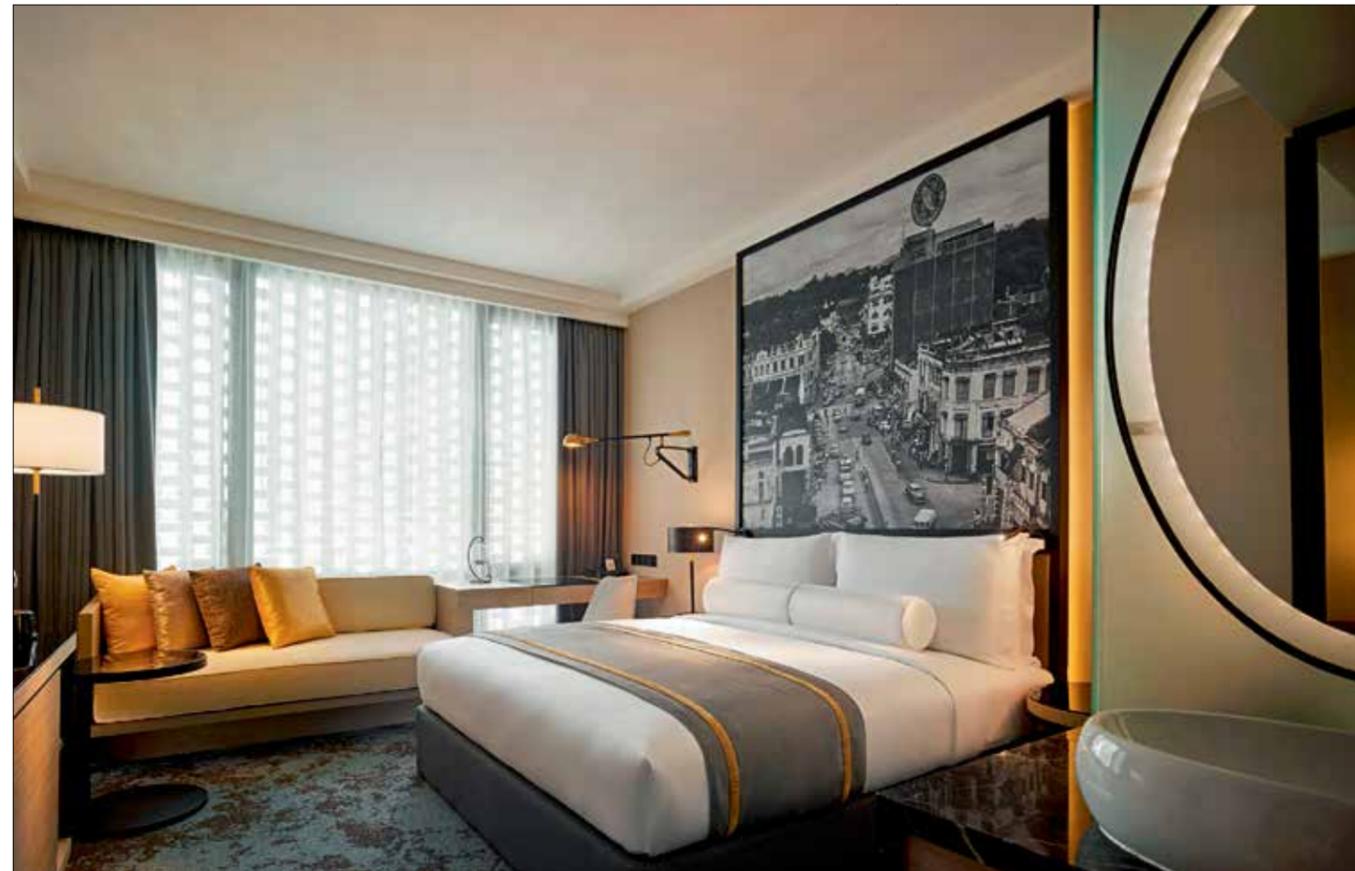




The rooftop pool overlooks Kuala Lumpur's skyline; guestrooms and suites are a unique blend of contemporary design and urban chic, reflecting the history and character of the neighbourhood.

Back in the late 19th century during the halcyon days of the industrial age, Kuala Lumpur was a vibrant commercial centre, propelled by the then-Malaya's booming tin mining industry. The hub of the tin trade was along Jalan Kamunting, a street initially lined with wooden and thatched buildings. But after a disastrous fire, new brick and tile shophouses with inner walkways spanning five feet, ingeniously designed to shield pedestrians from the scorching tropical sun and rain, were constructed by the British colonial administration. These buildings continue to stand today, serving as both echoes of the city's not-so-distant past and a thoughtful counterpoint to its quickening rhythm of urbanisation.

Similarly, a sense of history as well as an edgy take on design pervades the 184-room Hotel



Stripes Kuala Lumpur, the second Autograph Collection Hotel in Malaysia, which officially opened on 18 February 2017. Autograph Collection Hotels is part of Marriott International and features 134 handpicked boutique hotels around the world, each of which has been individually curated, specially crafted and shares an emotional connection with its locale.

Located on the storied thoroughfare, Hotel Stripes Kuala Lumpur brandishes sleek of-the-moment interiors, interlaced with visual reminders of the Malaysian capital's textured multicultural urban heritage. Exterior brick wall facades form an intricate network of shade in certain parts of the building, while framed black and white photographs of the city from decades past, sourced from the country's National Archives, adorn the guestrooms.

While heritage elements are highlighted as part of the Hotel Stripes Kuala Lumpur experience, the hotel's staff emanates a youthful, enthusiastic and eager-to-please vibe. From seamless arrivals to check-ins, guests are made to feel welcome the moment they step into the hotel, and this engaging and thoughtful hospitality continues throughout the duration of their stay.

THE POOL AND ITS OPEN-AIR DECK ARE BOTH IDEAL VANTAGE POINTS TO SAVOUR STUNNING SKYLINE VIEWS (PERFECT FOR INSTAGRAM-WORTHY PHOTOS) OVER DOWNTOWN KL.

HOW TO GET THERE

The Medan Tuanku Monorail station is a three-minute walk from Hotel Stripes Kuala Lumpur. The monorail service connects to Bukit Bintang where shopping malls like Lot 10 and Starhill Gallery are located, as well as to KL Sentral, which offers direct connections via the Express Rail Link to Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA). Taxis are also available from both KLIA and KL Sentral.

For more information, please visit www.stripeskl.com

Just as perspectives of the past are accented in Hotel Stripes Kuala Lumpur's design lexicon, the thoughtful room amenities comprise the ultimate in comfort with in-built technology in tune with the high degree of functionality that today's world travellers expect. These include plush bedding that guarantee a good night's sleep, wall sockets with configured international adapters, complimentary Wi-Fi, HD televisions, espresso coffee machines, adjustable bedside reading lights, complimentary minibars, and for nostalgic touches, selections of traditional local sweets such as coconut candy and preserved plums.

FROM SEAMLESS ARRIVALS TO CHECK-INS, GUESTS ARE MADE TO FEEL WELCOME THE MOMENT THEY STEP INTO THE HOTEL.

Elements in the four room categories — Deluxe, Executive Deluxe, Studio and Executive Studio — include an abundance of space, while the warm light beige and gold interior colour schemes conjure an atmosphere of warmth and welcome.

The infinity swimming pool on the top level of the building is the hotel's outdoor social hub where guests can mingle and unwind. The pool and its open-air deck are both ideal vantage points to savour stunning skyline views (perfect for Instagram-worthy photos) over downtown KL. This is best appreciated at sunset with a cocktail or two and a tray of chic Asian nibbles prepared in the style of Chinese buns from the poolside bar, Man Tao — soon to be the city's latest must-visit spot.

On the same floor, guests can enjoy a seamless and comprehensive workout at the hotel's fully equipped state-of-the-art gym. While downstairs on level three, a series of six flexible-purpose meeting rooms — Studio S/T/R/I/P/E — ranging from 50sqm to 80sqm, are primed for productive presentations, press events and product launches.

In the mornings, breakfast is served at The Snug, a cosy yet minimalist space decked out in masculine tones of black, bronze and grey, and industrial design motifs such as stripped-back walls. Guests are tempted with a buffet selection of both Asian and Western breakfast staples.

Freshly brewed coffee and tea, along with an all-day takeaway section comprising juices, fruits, salads and sandwiches, are available until 6pm.



Hotel Stripes Kuala Lumpur's lobby (above) and The Snug (right).

Facing page:

Brasserie 25 exudes a rustic charm with its red brick arcades, mid-century copper Sputnik chandeliers and dark wood floors.



At Brasserie 25, Hotel Stripes Kuala Lumpur's restaurant takes inspiration from the bistros of downtown Paris; the interiors are a mix and match of red brick arcades, 1950s copper Sputnik chandeliers and elegant dark wood floors. Flavoursome dishes to taste include the foie gras terrine with fig jam on a toasted brioche, the hearty roasted chicken with ample portions of mashed potatoes and winter vegetables, as well as the succulent lamb shank served with steak fries and roasted tomatoes. In the afternoons, to complement business or social meetings, a French-style tea, Le Gouter, a popular ritual inspired by Hotel Stripes' sister hotel MUSE Saint Tropez, is presented at the restaurant. Expect both delectable sweet desserts from exquisitely made — and authentically French — bite-sized cakes and macarons along with Malaysian-influenced nibbles such as curry puffs and savoury tarts, accompanied by

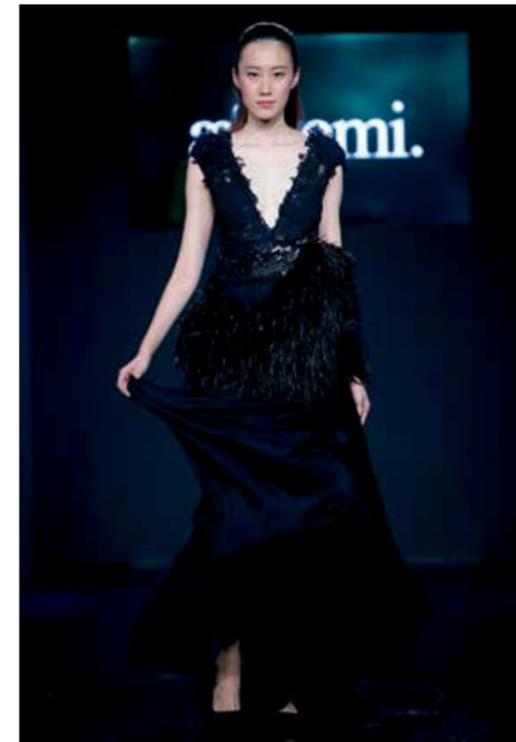
either tea or coffee. On the subject of coffee, next door to the hotel is a KL institution, the Yut Kee coffeeshop, known nationally for its locally blended beans with a serious caffeine kick and for its time-honoured variety of Hainanese dishes like pork chops, beef noodle soup, fish porridge, as well as its picks of fried rice dishes including a tasty salted fish version. Also nearby is The Row, comprising 22 shophouses that were built in the 1940s, all of which have been retrofitted to house restaurants, cafes, art galleries and other creative enterprises.

These days, the neighbourhood where Hotel Stripes Kuala Lumpur is located matches old with new and past with present. And just as it was during the time when Jalan Kamunting attracted people from around the region who sought better lives for themselves and their families, the area continues to evolve; always turning the page, and always creating new stories.



SHINE ON

ALL ABOUT THE SHOWS FEATURING MALAYSIAN AND INTERNATIONAL DESIGN TALENTS AT THE RECENT STARHILL GALLERY FASHION WEEK.



Top row from left: Syomir Izwa Sen-Gupta; Valentino; iKarrtini. Above from left: Celest Thoi; ae'lkemi by Alvin Fernandez; Nurita Harith. Below from left: iKarrtini; Kenzo. Facing page: Mita Tam Style Studio.

A HOST OF SHOWS TOOK PLACE FROM 12 TO 15 APRIL.



Starhill Gallery's Fashion Week Kuala Lumpur Spring/Summer 2017 was a highly anticipated event in the fashion-forward city's buzzing scene. A host of shows took place from 12 to 15 April that featured clothes from Valentino, Kenzo, McQ Alexander McQueen, M Missoni, Debenhams, Mita Tam Style Studio and iKarrtini. On 12 April, Australian label ae'lkemi by Alvin Fernandez made its Malaysian debut, while on 14 April, creations by Malaysian designers Celest Thoi, Nurita Harith and Syomir Izwa Sen-Gupta came under the stylish spotlight.



CHALLENGE, ACCEPTED



PANGKOR LAUT RESORT'S ANNUAL
ENDURANCE EVENT,
THE CHAPMAN'S CHALLENGE,
ATTRACTED AN INTERNATIONAL
ROSTER OF PARTICIPANTS.

From left: Richard
Macdonald, Tom Sarginson,
and Sarah Mangelsdorf.
Below: Pangkor Laut
Resort's general manager,
Philippe Cavory.



THE CHAPMAN'S
CHALLENGE IS A
TRIBUTE TO BRITISH
COLONEL SPENCER
CHAPMAN.

In its second year, The Chapman's Challenge took place at Pangkor Laut Resort from 12 to 14 May. A tribute to British Colonel Spencer Chapman who braved both elements and enemy during the Second World War, the rigorous competition comprises a 3.8km road run around the island, followed by a 2.4km trek through pristine rainforest, and finishing with a one-kilometre swim in the waters of Emerald Bay. This year's top five multinational qualifiers included Matt Poole from Australia, Rikigoro Shinozuka from Malaysia, Harriet Brown from Australia, Stephen Spencer Chapman from the United Kingdom and Irene Chong See Win from Malaysia. Among the popular post-race activities were celebratory drinks at Chapman's Bar as well as signature treatments at the resort's award-winning Spa Village.



Clockwise from top right:
Stephen Spencer Chapman;
Michael Davis and Chris
Cable; Harriet Brown and
Matt Poole; Poole's time of
46.44 was a record-breaker
for the Challenge.





A CELEBRATION OF SILK

PINK JAMBU CELEBRATES ITS SILVER JUBILEE WITH TENUN PAHANG DIRAJA AT THE MAJESTIC HOTEL KUALA LUMPUR.

Words VISHAL BHASKARAN

The Majestic Hotel Kuala Lumpur recently joined luxury batik house Pink Jambu in playing host to a select group of guests for a special promotion of Tenun Pahang Diraja (royal woven silk of Pahang). Pink Jambu is a quintessentially Malaysian brand launched by YM Tengku Marina Ibrahim 25 years ago.

Gracing the event as the guest of honour was Kebawah Duli Yang Teramat Mulia Tengku Puan Pahang, Tunku Hajjah Azizah Aminah Maimunah Iskandariah, the



HRH HAS ALSO PUBLISHED A BOOK — TENUN PAHANG DIRAJA; WARISAN, TRADISI DAN FALSAFAH — THAT OUTLINES THE HERITAGE, THE TRADITION AND THE PHILOSOPHY OF THE EXQUISITE ART FORM.



royal consort to the Crown Prince of Pahang. Tengku Puan is the founder of Tenun Pahang Diraja, who has taken an active role in reviving this dying art over the past 10 years.

HRH has also published a book — *Tenun Pahang Diraja; Warisan, Tradisi dan Falsafah* — that outlines the heritage, the tradition and the philosophy of the exquisite art form.

According to Jeff Mong, the General Manager of The Majestic Hotel Kuala Lumpur: "It is only natural that we should host this collaboration between Pink Jambu and Tenun Pahang Diraja as The Majestic Hotel Kuala Lumpur stands proudly as an emblem of the past in our modern world. It is important to help nurture our Malaysian heritage and craftsmanship as a legacy for our future generations."



From top: Puan Maisura, YM Tengku Marina Ibrahim and Datin Noor Zihan; YM Tengku Marina Ibrahim, Jeff Mong and Ferizada Muthanna; The Ambassador of the Republic of Korea His Excellency Dr Yu Hyun-Seok; Kebawah Duli Yang Teramat Mulia, Tengku Puan Pahang, Tunku Azizah Aminah Maimunah Iskandariah Sultan Iskandar; YM Tengku Marsilla Tengku Abdullah.



THE ART OF CELEBRATIONS

IMMORTALISE LIFE'S MOST JOYOUS OCCASIONS AMID THE COLONIAL CHARM AND INIMITABLE GLAMOUR OF THE MAJESTIC HOTEL KUALA LUMPUR.

Words RENYI LIM

Each opulent, beautifully decorated space at The Majestic Hotel Kuala Lumpur holds a story embodied with soul and heart. The city's iconic historic property—a national heritage site dating to 1932—is no stranger to dazzling social events, sophisticated receptions and weddings remembered by generations to come.

Weddings have generated some of the fondest memories: vintage black-and-white photographs of newly-wed couples standing on the famous steps of the original Hotel Majestic, like those of Mr and Mrs EH Wong in 1960, still find their way back to the hotel today. So, too, do the happy couples. For example, Mr and Mrs George de Silva, who held their wedding reception at Hotel Majestic in 1966, commemorated their golden anniversary at The Roof Garden at

the start of this year.

The elegant white steps leading up to the original Majestic Wing are now a highly sought after location of the next generation of newly-weds, many of whom capture that picture-perfect moment in front of the hotel, with their families beside them. It is a highlight of what is often a grand affair, given that the Majestic Ballroom upstairs, in all its pillarless, chandeliered glory, is capable of seating 1,200 people for a splendid banquet.

Weddings, however, are but an element of many in the cultivation of one's highly personalised story at

AT THE SMOKE HOUSE, GENTLEMEN CAN STAGE A BACHELOR PARTY WITH A TOUCH OF CLASS BY RESERVING ITS PRIVATE DINING ROOM.



The Majestic. The hotel's treasure chest of spaces—some cosy, others larger and full of life—are there to be explored and claimed as one's own. The Orchid Conservatory, for instance, is a favourite venue for intimate lunches or dinners for up to 20 people or bridal showers complete with afternoon tea. It is also a wonderfully romantic spot for a proposal, amid the glass atrium's plethora of colourful *phalaenopsis* orchids—a botanical marvel that cannot be found anywhere else in Malaysia.

At The Smoke House, gentlemen can stage a bachelor party with a touch of class by reserving its private dining room, which comes with a chef who is always ready to create a unique menu for up to 10 guests. Johnnie, the amiable barman, is an expert at rustling up classic cocktails such as the whisky and soda stengah or the tropical Jungle Bird. The on-site bespoke tailor and Truefitt & Hill's grooming service will ensure that the groom and his friends look their best.

The delights of Colonial Cafe and its classic colonial and Hainanese-inspired cuisine in the Majestic Wing will appeal to anyone seeking to hold a birthday party or an anniversary to remember. With a seating capacity for 120 guests that stretches to two covered courtyards, its pristine white tablecloths, timber panelling and comfortable cane-backed leather chairs come together to recreate



the refined, stately atmosphere of old Malaya. In the evenings, guests are entertained by The Solianos—the descendants of the legendary maestro Alfonso Soliano—all of whom channel his verve and panache with their renditions of songs popular in the late 1950s, around the time when Malaya gained its independence. The adjacent Tea Lounge, which looks out onto a neatly trimmed lawn, is a picturesque spot for daytime celebrations over afternoon tea.

On level four, The Roof Garden—a striking outdoor setting with capacity for 120 to 150 guests—lends itself magnificently to a cocktail soiree or a vow renewal ceremony. Combined with winning views of Kuala Lumpur's historic mile, it is all the more reason to set your sights soaring for your next celebration at The Majestic Hotel Kuala Lumpur.

For more information, visit www.majestickl.com



The Majestic Hotel Kuala Lumpur is the only place in town to make your special occasions come spectacularly alive in the timeless glamour of its diverse event spaces.

THE NINTH ESTATES

EXQUISITELY DESIGNED AND
SURROUNDED BY JADE-HUED FOLIAGE,
THESE LUXURY ABODES AT PANGKOR
LAUT RESORT ARE EXTRAORDINARY
ON ALL LEVELS.

Words DIANA HUBBELL



Situated on the northern part of the island, The Estates feature luxurious comforts with separate living and dining pavilions as well as a private pool offering dramatic views; all set amid pristine rainforest.



If exclusivity is the height of luxury, then it's hard to conceive of a more luxurious experience than a stay at Pangkor Laut Resort, an elite hideaway that has set the standard for five-star service in Malaysia since it opened more than two decades ago. This stunning hideaway is the only sign of human civilisation on this jungle-draped island, surrounded by the glittering waters of the Straits of Malacca. Luciano Pavarotti, just one of a host of A-listers to stop by over the years, once proclaimed it paradise and the description still rings true today. Thanks to the resort's environmentally

JACUZZIS, INFINITY OR SWIMMING POOLS AND SALAS FOR STRETCHING OR SUNNING CAN BE FOUND THROUGHOUT.

responsible policies, the island remains every bit as lush and lovely as it has always been. Guests strolling along the coral-speckled sands of Emerald Bay often spy rare great hornbills, while troupes of monkeys can be spotted cavorting through the trees.

Ensnconed in rainforest on the northern edge of this idyllic isle lie the Estates, eight opulent havens evoking the grandeur of life in colonial Malaysia's most stately houses. Each of these two- to four-bedroom properties showcases state-of-the-art amenities paired with exceptional design. Jacuzzis, infinity or swimming pools and salas for stretching or sunning can be found throughout.

No two are exactly alike and each has its own distinct allure.



Estate Five sports a magnificent view of the sunset and Estate Nine features a rock garden, giant chess board and a communal spa pavilion inspired by Japanese onsens. For those hoping for panoramic vistas, the hilltop Estates offer truly breathtaking ones, while beach-lovers may opt to stay in Estates One, Two and Four, all of which provide unimpeded access to the sandy shores of a sheltered cove.

Guests at these sanctuaries are tended to by private butlers and chefs. Should you feel an urge to embark on a guided jungle walk, a sunset cruise or simply to lounge at one of the resort's secluded bays, a driver can easily whisk you to your desired destination. There are virtually no limits here.

Whether you rise with the sun or prefer to linger a little longer in bed, your chef can prepare a morning feast at whatever time you choose. Order anything you crave and the chef will whip it up while your butler pours tea, coffee or freshly squeezed juices. In the evenings, dinner is however you imagine it, with a vast array



Guests who request for a specific Estate at the point of booking will be contacted by YTL Travel Centre to advise its availability.

of specialities from Eastern and Western cuisines. From a romantic meal for two to a family gathering for 10, all you have to do is ask and your private team will make it so.

With unparalleled service, absolute privacy and architectural designs that perfectly complement their spectacular settings, this gorgeous assortment of Estates represents an opulent experience like no other.

For more information, please visit www.pangkorlautresort.com/accommodation-the-estates



TASTING TERENGGANU

A DRIVE FROM KUALA LUMPUR TO THE EAST COAST BRINGS TRAVELLERS TO A LAND OF UNIQUE LOCAL DELICACIES AND THE AWARD-WINNING TANJONG JARA RESORT.

Words MARCO FERRARESE



Peninsular Malaysia's east coast promises a quieter pace of life. It was here that Malay settlers, Arab sailors and Chinese migrants intermingled, thus creating some of Malaysia's most diverse mix of cultures and an intriguing blend of their cuisines.

It is easy enough to travel to Terengganu, the east coast's longest littoral state, from Kuala Lumpur using the East Coast Highway E8. Leaving Kuala Lumpur by 10am, a recommended lunch stop is at Temerloh, one of Pahang's most sizeable settlements. The town, to the south of famous Taman Negara National Park, is the best place to try *ikan patin masak tempoyak*, the local silver catfish cooked in durian paste. Sauteed with ginger, lemongrass and *tempoyak*, this Pahang speciality uses the durian's strong taste and spices to pack a punch.

One enters Terengganu proper after bypassing Kuantan and proceeding north along the E8 highway. The best initiation to zestier local flavours is at the small town of Chukai, which lies beside Kemaman River.

Restaurant Tong Juan is well-known for its crabs, the shells of which are stuffed with crabmeat topped with whisked egg whites and flash-fried to golden perfection. The succulent meat along with the crispy topping is best enjoyed with the restaurant's homemade garlic-flavoured chilli sauce.

THE BEAUTIFUL PROPERTY WAS DESIGNED IN THE STYLE OF A 17TH-CENTURY MALAY PALACE.



Right: Chukai town is home to an array of establishments serving a host of local delights. Below: Tanjong Jara Resort offers its own selection of dining choices.



Left: the beaches and islands of Malaysia's east coast are a huge draw for visitors. Below: the semi-detached single-storey Anjung Rooms are spacious havens. Every Anjung Room features a symmetrical outdoor bath that sits in its own private courtyard.



Also in Kemaman is Hai Peng Kopitiam, a spot for staples such as strong local coffee and *roti benggali* with *kaya* — a Malaysian tea-time treat composed of freshly baked bread and jam made from coconut, eggs and caramel.

Drive farther north on the E8 for an hour past bucolic coastline to reach the seaside town of Dungun. About 15 minutes from the town is Tanjong Jara Resort. The beautiful property, a winner of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture, was designed in the style of a 17th-century Malay palace and is set on a stretch of golden sandy beach that greets the South China Sea.

Before that, stop by the town's bustling market for *apom*, a dessert made from flour, eggs, sugar, baking soda, coconut milk and water; *goreng pisang* (banana fritters) and *ikan celup goreng*, Terengganu's version of battered fried fish minus the chips.

For those wishing to further explore the market, one of Tanjong Jara Resort's most animated personalities, chef Ann, takes guests on morning excursions, offering tips and tricks on selecting the freshest seafood.

One of the state's most famous offerings, *keropok lekor*, accompanied with a sweet and spicy chilli sauce, is available at the market and at Teratai Terrace, one of the restaurants at Tanjong Jara Resort. This traditional fish cracker is made from sago flour and seasoned with salt and sugar.

For more information, please visit www.tanjongjararesort.com

FRESH OFF THE BOATS

EAST MALAYSIAN DELICACIES AND JUST-CAUGHT SEAFOOD ARE JUST SOME OF THE HIGHLIGHTS AT THE REVAMPED FEAST VILLAGE AND FISHERMAN'S COVE – TWO OF GAYA ISLAND RESORT'S CULINARY DESTINATIONS.

Words RENYI LIM





As anyone with a voracious appetite for exploration will agree, getting to know a new land is never just about seeing and doing — it is also about tasting. Exotic, unfamiliar flavours can unearth a whole new way of appreciating the locale you've arrived in (or even returned to), and this is certainly true of Gaya Island Resort's dining experiences.

The sheer variety of cuisines on offer at Feast Village — usually every guest's first port of call at the resort — goes far in terms of highlighting Malaysia's diverse food culture. The restaurant's laid-back, soak-in-the-sunlight ambience serves as a clever counterpoint to its lively international open-kitchen concept, where different counters offer Asian and Western dishes. The restaurant's newly refreshed interiors are bright and welcoming, transforming the space with modernist floral and bamboo-tiled motifs, gleaming wooden panelling and comfortable cream-coloured chairs, earthy brown seats and punchy lime cushions.

An enjoyably interactive experience is very much part of the Feast Village experience,



Feast Village's beautifully lit refreshed interiors feature geometric tiling.



THE SHEER VARIETY OF CUISINES ON OFFER AT FEAST VILLAGE — USUALLY EVERY GUEST'S FIRST PORT OF CALL AT THE RESORT — GOES FAR IN TERMS OF HIGHLIGHTING MALAYSIA'S DIVERSE FOOD CULTURE.



Situated on the rooftop with a breathtaking view of Mount Kinabalu, Fisherman's Cove serves seafood-themed dishes as well as scrumptious desserts.





AS ANYONE WITH A VORACIOUS APPETITE FOR EXPLORATION WILL AGREE, GETTING TO KNOW A NEW LAND IS NEVER JUST ABOUT SEEING AND DOING.

extending to breakfast, lunch and dinner. In the mornings, diners have options of tasting items from the noodle and pancake stations. Even ordering a la carte delivers its own sort of fun in the form of grill-it-yourself beef or chicken satay, both of which arrive over smoking charcoal with peanut sauce, made from the chef's special recipe, and cubed white rice cakes.

There are ample opportunities to try dishes that can't be found in other parts of the world, like Tuaran mee — springy egg noodles said to be the favourite comfort food of Sabahans, made in the village of Tuaran. The same goes for the nasi goreng Gaya, which consists of local-style fried rice with fish crackers, pineapple salad and fried chicken, as well as satay pizza, topped with bite-sized morsels of

tender chicken and mercilessly spicy slices of fresh chilli. On the rooftop of Feast Village is Fisherman's Cove, which specialises in locally sourced seafood. A recent design addition is a transparent roof on the outdoor deck area that provides, on nights when skies are clear, starlit dining experiences.

Here, besides a daily rotation of chef's specials, diners can also enjoy extraordinary views of Mount Kinabalu. Amid white tablecloths, exquisite tableware and a gentle breeze that sweeps in from the ocean, diners can have their fill of mangrove crabmeat tarts, an umami medley of marine crystal white prawns, squid, clams and cockles scented with aromatic native herbs, and slender strands of spaghetti entwined with Frutti de Mare or fruits of the sea.

A large part of the appeal of Fisherman's Cove is its commitment to serving line-caught, responsibly sourced seafood in support of sustainable fishing practices. The Catch of the Day selection ranges from tiger prawns to fish found in local waters such as coral trout, garoupa or red snapper, depending on what the seas around Sabah have gifted to fishermen that morning. Guests are entirely in control of how they'd prefer their fish prepared. For instance, broiled with sea salt or steaming gently in a nutritious soy broth.

Curious diners might want to go with a wholly East Malaysian style of cooking, where the fish is pan-fried and topped with Borneo sambal — a heady mixture of onions, shallots, lemongrass, galangal and the unmistakable pungency of belacan shrimp paste, served with a portion of steamed red rice grown in the undulating highlands of Ranau. It is just the sort of dish that will have you longing for Gaya Island Resort long after you've left.

For more information, please visit www.gayaislandresort.com



The regional cuisine and exquisite fresh seafood prepared by Gaya Island Resort's skilled chefs is a play on the senses.



ARMANI / DOLCI

PRESENTS
**CORPORATE
GIFT BOXES**

Gift box with 3 assorted chocolate bars, 300gr bag with chocolate squares, chocolate cream jar, 2 assorted teas
Gift sets are customisable.

ARMANI/DOLCI / F-1-4 EXPLORE FLOOR / STARHILL GALLERY / 181 JALAN BUKIT BINTANG, KUALA LUMPUR
FOR TELEPHONE ORDERS, PLEASE CALL +603.2710.3803

TALES OF THE HIGHLANDS

FROM HOMEMADE STRAWBERRY JAM TO AFTERNOON
TEA, CAMERON HIGHLANDS RESORT TAKES GUESTS
ON A STEP BACK IN TIME WITH ALL THE MODERN
COMFORTS OF THE PRESENT.

Words [DIANA HUBBELL](#)



THE REGION'S STRAWBERRIES, AS LUSCIOUS AND SWEET AS ANY IN THE WORLD, ARE SO RENOWNED THAT FAMILIES COME FROM ALL OVER JUST TO PLUCK THEM.

Though only a few hours' drive from Kuala Lumpur, Cameron Highlands might as well be in another world. Here, 1,500 metres above sea level, the cooler all-year-round climate was what first drew British colonialists, who were reminded of refined English countryside escapes. They left behind a landscape spotted with rose gardens, quaint cottages, and rolling tea plantations. The region's strawberries, as luscious and sweet as any in the world, are so renowned that families come from all over just to pluck them. The colonial legacy runs deeper than mere aesthetic shifts in scenery, however, and tall tales of the hill station have enthralled generations of historians.

Nestled among the verdant hills lies Cameron Highlands Resort, a rustic-chic lodge built out of a

1930s English-style cottage. With its handsome French doors, timber-beamed ceilings, and furnishings covered in richly patterned textiles and silks, the place marries classic colonial grandeur with modern-day comforts. Opulently outfitted rooms with canopied beds and luxe amenities would be reason enough to pay a visit, but what sets the place apart is its connection with the surrounding area's storied past.

More than a few traditions from the British upper crust live on through the hotel. During the afternoon, guests gather in the Jim Thompson Tea Room, named after the legendary silk merchant and man of mystery, for a proper afternoon tea. Served on bone china and tiered platters, the sumptuous spread includes a decadent array of pastries, sandwiches, and, of course, warm, buttery scones served with clotted cream and the resort's own jam made from local strawberries.

As cosy as it is to curl up in the

Dining at Cameron Highlands Resort sees traditional English cuisine meeting the many tastes of Asia in a mouth-watering symphony of flavours and experiences.

grand room, some guests prefer to venture outdoors. In such cases, a private butler prepares a lavish picnic right in the heart of a tea plantation. Since the resort has exclusive access to the location, there is nothing to intrude upon the natural serenity. It is ideal for couples who can bask in the surroundings while being served course after course of bite-sized nibbles while reclining on cushions.

Back at the resort, guests continue to be spoiled for choice when it comes to fine dining. Though entirely different, both of the primary restaurants at Cameron Highlands Resort turn to regional traditions for culinary inspiration. Gonbei celebrates the local love of hot pot, also known as steamboat, a Chinese speciality that pairs perfectly with the crisp evening air. In this stylish, casual eatery, guests gather around steaming pots filled with broths ranging from Japanese-style seafood to spicy tom yum to beef-bone with Chinese herbs. Farm-fresh vegetables, springy noodles, beef, chicken, shellfish, and tofu all simmer right at the table, making for a wholesome, restorative meal that diners of all ages can enjoy.

Meanwhile, the Dining Room channels the apex of British colonial refinement. In the morning, a

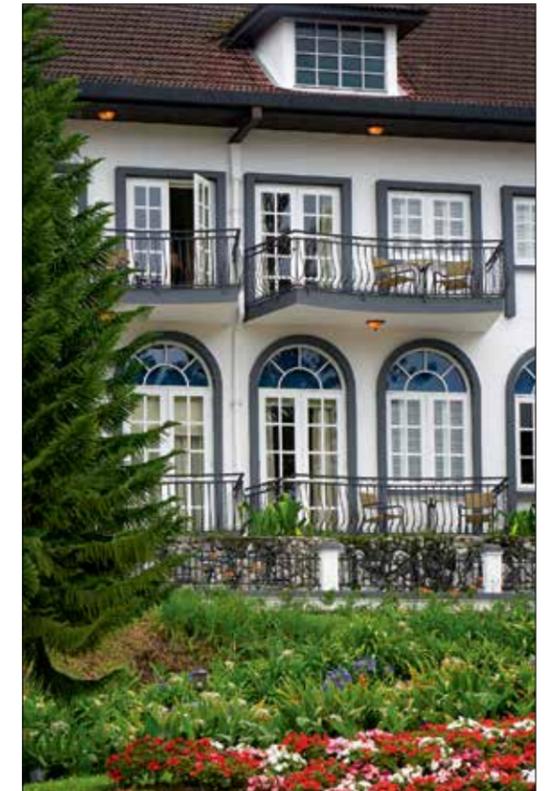
breakfast spread adorns the space and waiters offer guests their first cup of coffee or made-to-order brunch favourites such as omelettes and waffles. In the evening, candles cast an ethereal glow as guests savour contemporary renditions of Continental fare such as soup made with local tomatoes crowned with golden puff pastry or meltingly tender braised lamb shank.

The recipes may have evolved over the years, but the enchanting atmosphere is the same one that has lured generations of travellers to this escape.

For details, please visit www.cameronhighlandsresort.com

WITH ITS HANDSOME FRENCH DOORS, TIMBER-BEAMED CEILINGS, AND FURNISHINGS COVERED IN RICHLY PATTERNED TEXTILES AND SILKS, THE PLACE MARRIES CLASSIC COLONIAL GRANDEUR WITH MODERN-DAY COMFORTS.

Cameron Highlands Resort's architecture dates from the 1930s; the elegant décor of the Jim Thompson Tea Room embodies the old-world charm and gentility of the colonial plantation lifestyle from a bygone era.





Lino Sauro and some of his delectable creations. Clockwise from above: Cassata, modern take on the traditional Sicilian Ricotta Cheesecake; Polipo, charred and citrus-glazed octopus, capsicum and sundried tomato aioli; Polipo, charred citrus-glazed octopus, risone, capsicum, sundried tomato aioli, chilli and pistachio pesto. Facing page: Ostrica, oyster, sherry vinegar jelly, wasabi chips and Avruga caviar.



FROM SHORE TO SHORE

AWARD-WINNING EXECUTIVE GUEST CHEF LINO SAURO REVEALS THE ART OF BRINGING THE ESSENTIAL FLAVOURS OF HIS SICILIAN HOMETOWN TO THE RITZ-CARLTON, KUALA LUMPUR.

Words RENYI LIM

“**T**o me, the flavours of Sicily are all about comfort food,” explains chef Lino Sauro, on the afternoon before he is due to debut his four-course dinner menu at The Library in The Ritz-Carlton, Kuala Lumpur. “I grew up in a family of farmers and I had seven siblings, so my earliest food memories are of my mother, who was always at the stove, cooking for all those hungry mouths.”

River to a village in Peru so that I could learn local cooking techniques. I like immersing myself in the culinary heritage of each country I’m exploring.

Which of your dishes proved most popular in Kuala Lumpur?
The risone with charred citrus-glazed octopus, capsicum, sun-dried tomato aioli, chilli and pistachio pesto. I think Malaysian diners were intrigued by the risone’s texture because they ate the dish expecting it to be rice, but were surprised to find it was actually pasta.

As one of a regular series of guest chefs who let their skills shine at The Library, he stepped away from his kitchen at Gattopardo Ristorante di Mare in Singapore recently to deliver his interpretations of classic southern Italian dishes to equally ravenous Malaysian gourmands.



How did you select wines to pair with your menu?
I started off by looking at how peppery, sweet, warm or spicy each dish was, and then made my selection from the options that The Ritz-Carlton, Kuala Lumpur offered me from their cellar. I opted for a chianti from Tuscany and southern Italian white wines that could be easily matched with seafood, as I wanted to ensure that the wine wouldn’t overwhelm the food, and vice-versa.

Ever one for immersing himself in each country’s culinary heritage, Sauro took the opportunity to enjoy a little well-deserved downtime with his family, thanks to the “outstanding hospitality” of The Ritz-Carlton, Kuala Lumpur. Working with The Library’s kitchen team was an equally memorable experience, a process he describes as, “absolutely cool”. He adds: “For some, it was their first time encountering Sicilian cuisine, but they were so helpful and collaborative.”

What do you think of our local food offerings?
I ventured out to Soo Kee Mee and ordered as many dishes as I could feasibly fit onto the table. I prefer the street food here much more than I do in Singapore. It seems more honest, somehow.

What sparked your interest in cooking?
I initially wanted to be a chef in order to go travelling, but I ended up travelling so that I could cook! I’ve visited the Amazon River, Peru, Chile, China, Laos and Cambodia. I’ve spent the past 12 years in Singapore.

What, to you, is a classic Sicilian dish?
Pasta con le sarde – bucatini pasta with fresh sardines, anchovies, wild fennel, a little bit of saffron and among other things, a sprinkling of Sicilian lemon zest. It’s a 2,000-year-old recipe, so you can’t go wrong with it.

Do you enjoy going off the beaten track?
I once trekked to the middle of the Amazon

For dining reservations at The Ritz-Carlton, Kuala Lumpur, please call +60 3 2142 8000 or email dining@ritzcarlton.com.my



THE DESCENDANTS

KRISTANG CUISINE, A BLEND OF PORTUGUESE, MALAYSIAN AND CHINESE FLAVOURS, FRAMES THE HISTORY OF A CULTURE WITH ROOTS GOING BACK 500 YEARS.

Words DIANA HUBBELL

The sun is setting over the Straits of Malacca, and not far from the water's edge, families have gathered at a series of outdoor eateries to feast on seafood. Though the restaurants in question are far from upscale, the mood is boisterous and the multinational crowd is in high spirits as they dig into platters piled with Portuguese chilli crab, incendiary sambal shrimp, and fishes grilled whole. As the evening wears on and the beer flows, voices rise in a cacophony of languages: English, Mandarin, Malay, and Kristang.

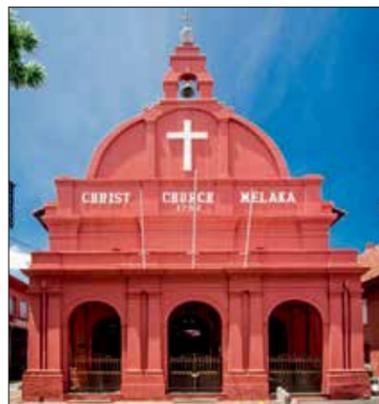
The latter is a mixture of Portuguese and Malay that clings to survival thanks to the few thousand left in the region who still speak it. Officially known as Portuguese Eurasians, the Kristang are the descendants of Portuguese settlers who controlled the region in the 1500s. Today, approximately 1,000 Kristang inhabit the pastel-painted houses of the Portuguese Settlement on the outskirts of Malacca. The small community still honours the traditions of their ancestors. Before Lent, the streets



break out into a raucous water fight. For Fiesta de San Pedro, men and women don traditional garb inspired by 14th-century Portugal and dance with abandon. Christmas transforms the neighbourhood into a sea of twinkling lights so spectacular that Malaccans of all faiths flock to see it

The Kristang continue to serve their distinctive cuisine, a fiery fusion of Portuguese and Malay dishes, enriched with exotic spices and laced with piri-piri chillies. These addictive specialities are on the menu at Melba at The Mansion, the signature restaurant at The Majestic Malacca.

Situated in the original historic house at the heart of the hotel, this grand dining area, with its high ceilings and fine china, presents a far more refined picture than the humble eateries in the Portuguese Settlement. In lieu of plastic tablecloths and paper napkins, waiters in crisp formalwear pour Old World wines as an accompaniment to the neatly plated dishes.



THE KRISTANG CONTINUE TO SERVE THEIR DISTINCTIVE CUISINE, A FIERY FUSION OF PORTUGUESE AND MALAY DISHES, ENRICHED WITH EXOTIC SPICES AND LACED WITH PIRI-PIRI CHILLIES.

Top two images: the interior of The Majestic Malacca has a timeless elegance with authentic antiques and original porcelain floors. Bottom: Christ Church was completed in 1753 as a Dutch Reform church.



RIGOROUSLY SOURCED LOCAL PRODUCE AND PRISTINE SEAFOOD ELEVATE THIS SOUL FOOD TO FINE DINING.

Yet despite the artful presentation, these Kristang dishes are every bit as authentic as their streetside counterparts. Many come from family recipes that have been passed down through generations and faithfully recreated by Melba at The Mansion's expertly trained chefs. Rigorously sourced local produce and pristine seafood elevate this soul food to fine dining. Throughout it all, bold salty, sour, savoury, and spicy flavours that

characterise both Portuguese and Malaysian cooking shine through.

A dish of eggplant slow-braised with soy sauce and lime is impossibly silky, while a velvety prawn curry is smooth and rich. Some of the Kristang specialities, such as a crab shell stuffed with sweet crabmeat and chicken, lean more heavily on the Portuguese side, while others are almost purely Malaysian. Even the simplest staples such as fried rice or laksa, with toothsome noodles swimming in a delicately spiced curry broth, are prepared with reverence here.

Regardless of what you order, the best way to enjoy is it to share it with friends and family. The Kristang believe in the power of food to bring people together in celebration. It's one of the ways that they have managed to maintain their identity and why after half a millennium they are still such an essential part of Malacca's cultural fabric. This cuisine is about community and maintaining a living connection with history. It is, simply put, food fit for a feast.

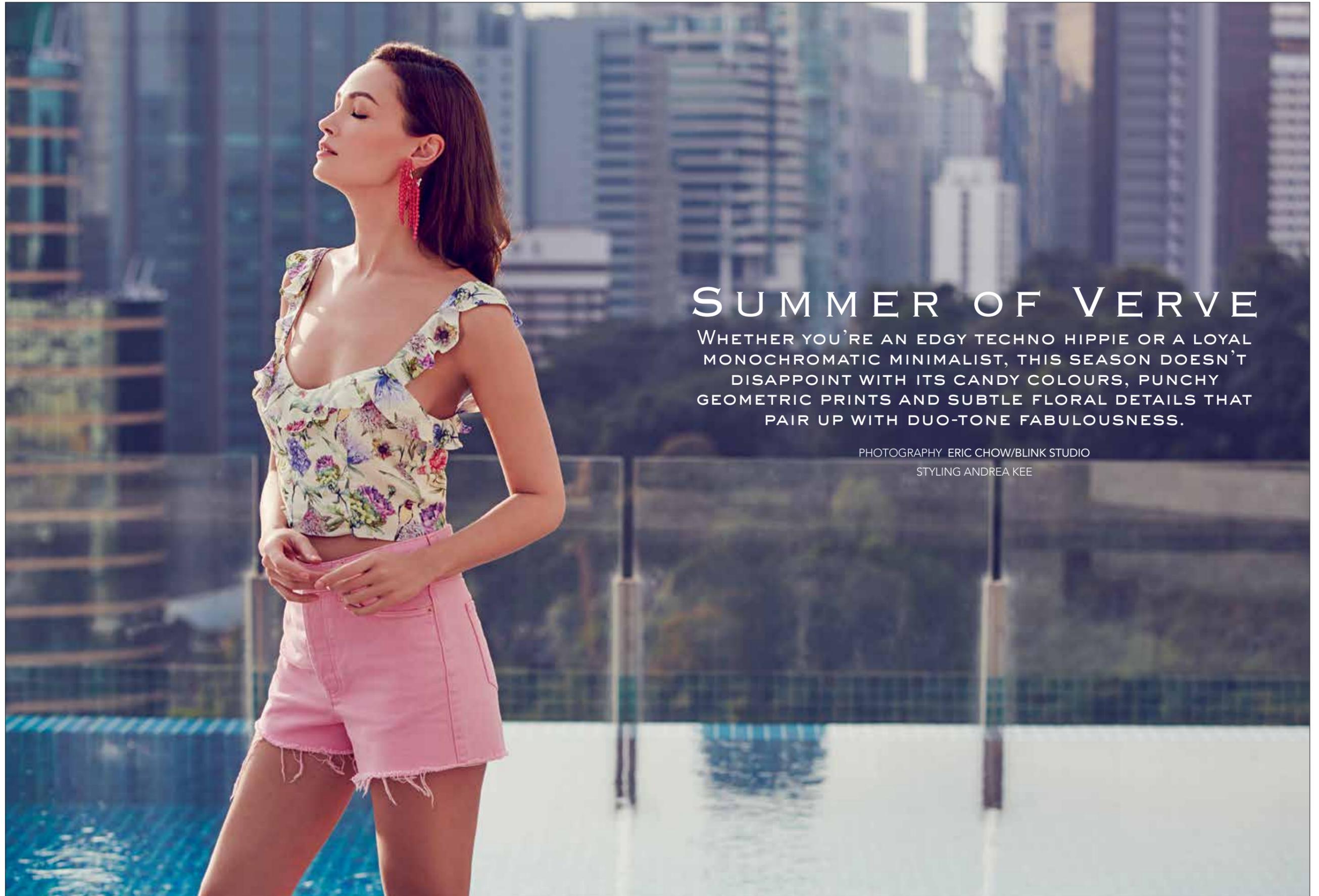
For more information, visit www.themajesticmalacca.com



Top: The Bar at the Mansion is the perfect place to unwind and relax.

Above: Portuguese influences can still be found in the historic town of Malacca.

Left: the heart of The Majestic Malacca is a restored 1920s Straits Settlement mansion.



SUMMER OF VERVE

WHETHER YOU'RE AN EDGY TECHNO HIPPIE OR A LOYAL MONOCHROMATIC MINIMALIST, THIS SEASON DOESN'T DISAPPOINT WITH ITS CANDY COLOURS, PUNCHY GEOMETRIC PRINTS AND SUBTLE FLORAL DETAILS THAT PAIR UP WITH DUO-TONE FABULOUSNESS.

PHOTOGRAPHY ERIC CHOW/BLINK STUDIO
STYLING ANDREA KEE

Elena wears: Printed cropped top, cut-off shorts and earrings, all **H&M**.



Elena wears: Top, *Kenzo*. Skirt, *Khoon Hooi*. Earrings, *H&M*. Bucket bag, *Braun Büffel*
Fernando wears: Sweater, *Kenzo*. Pants and sunglasses, both *H&M*



Fernando wears: Shirt, *Kenzo*. Cropped pants, *H&M*. Shoes, *Zara*. Briefcase, *Braun Büffel*.



Fernando wears: Printed shirt and shorts, both **Debenhams**.
Elena wears: Striped shirt dress, **Mita Tam**. Straw visor and cross-body bag, both **H&M**

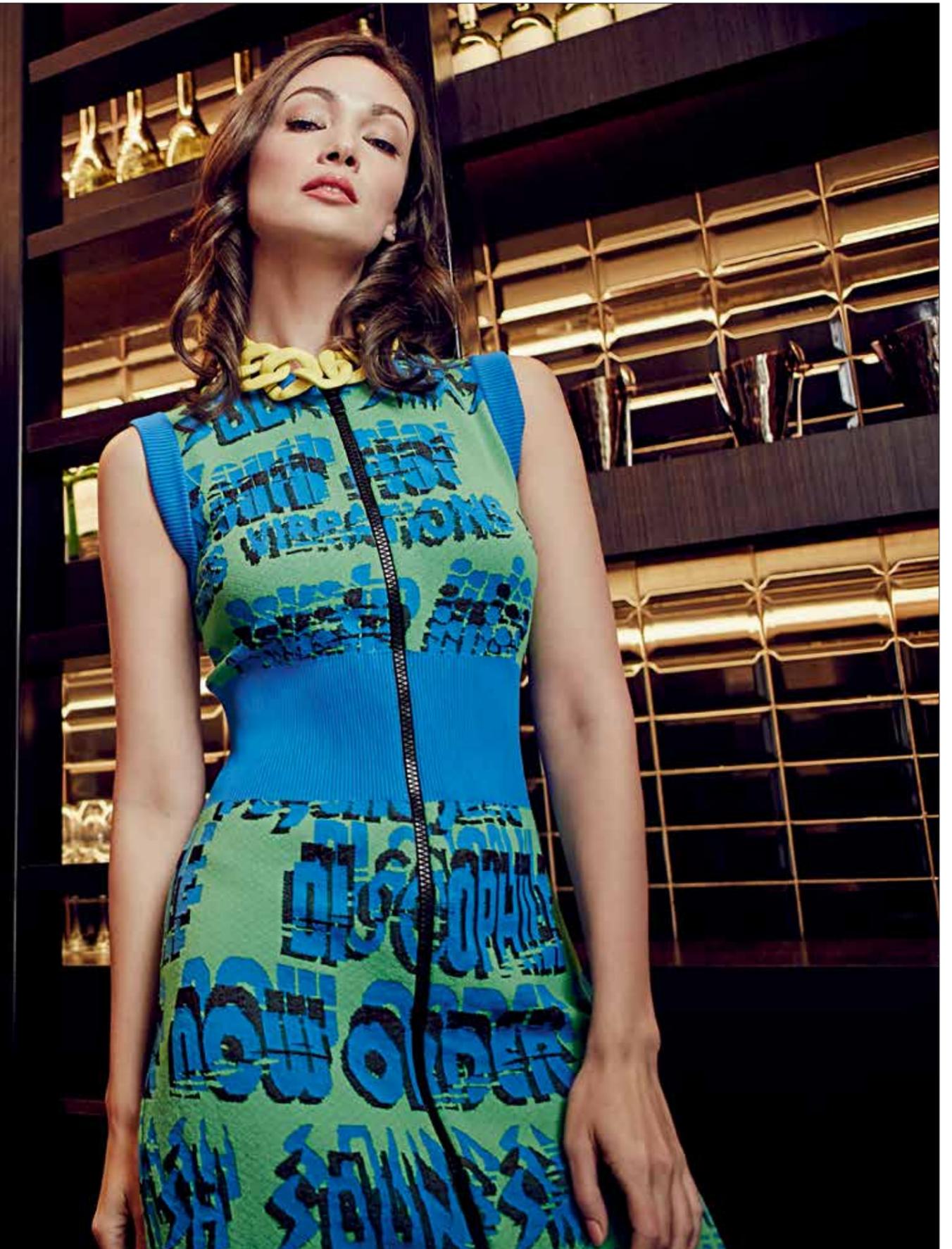


Fernando wears: **McQ** by **Alexander McQueen**. Shorts and fedora, both **H&M**



Elena wears: Dress, **McQ** by **Alexander McQueen**. Earrings, **H&M**

Fernando wears: Suit, *H&M*.
Printed shirt, *Debenhams*.
Elena wears:
Dress, *M Missoni*.
Necklace, *H&M*



Make-up *Ling Chong* using
YSL Beauty Hair *Lucas*
Tee/Number 76
Models *Elena Cheurina*
and *Fernando*
Skinner/Base model
management

ALL SUMMER LONG

THE PLEASURES OF NISEKO VILLAGE
EXTEND FAR BEYOND THE WINTER
MONTHS, INTO THE SEASON WHERE
THE SUN SHINES BRIGHTEST AND THE
ROLLING LANDSCAPE BRIMS WITH LIFE
AND COLOUR.

Words [RENYI LIM](#)



A 1.4KM PULLEY-MOUNTED TOUR ON THE COUNTRY'S LONGEST ZIP LINE WILL KICK-START THE ADRENALINE IN YOUR SYSTEM.



You don't have to be artistically inclined to appreciate the riot of summer colours that explodes across the plains surrounding Niseko Village every year. From mid-April

onwards, it is impossible not to stare in awe at the delicate wildflowers and rare alpine plants carpeting the 462-hectare Japanese mountain resort. There are reddish-purple rhododendrons in abundance, great swathes of white and yellow chinguruma flowers, rows of towering sunflowers, and perhaps most breathtaking of all, whole blankets of bright pink moss phlox.

Staying at Niseko Village during the region's warmer months is an exploration of all the senses. Whether you make the serene interiors of The Green Leaf Niseko Village or the chic, modern Hilton Niseko Village your home, the scenic base of the 1,308m-tall Mount Niseko Annapuri is yours to traverse to your heart's delight. Those seeking the ultimate mountain sanctuary can take refuge in one of eight richly furnished, two-storey townhouses at Kasara Niseko Village Townhouse.

Keen golfers will relish the opportunity to conquer the 6,845-yard Niseko Village Golf Course, while those who enjoy a challenge



can head for the undulating, rolling fairways of Niseko Golf Course, designed by Arnold Palmer, and primed for par 72 action merely 20 minutes away by car. Seekers of a different sort of green should venture forth into the area's great outdoors, where paths for biking, running, gentle walking and hardcore trekking abound.

You will certainly be fully deserving of a soothing soak in Wakka Spa's Hinoki cedar wood bath at Hilton Niseko Village if you manage the six-hour hike to the top of Mount Yotei, an inactive stratovolcano that punctuates the skyline of Niseko Valley. If that is too daunting a prospect, a 1.4km pulley-mounted tour on the country's longest zip line or a round of horseback riding and tree trekking at the Pure at Niseko Village nature activity centre will kick-start the adrenaline in your system.

Young visitors with oodles of energy to spare can go wild at Niseko Village's Pure Action and Pure Adventure inflated activity park, catch the wind over some kite-flying, and work on their

Tree trekking allows thrill-seekers to traverse along the treetops with a safety harness using zip lines, ropes, hanging bridges and nets, while a hot-air balloon ride affords a panoramic bird's-eye view of the Niseko mountain range and Mount Yotei.

putting skills at the Snag golf course. Leave enough time to chase the stunning views that the terrain offers: a 10-minute ride on the Annapuri summer gondola to a 1,000m-high observation deck will leave a lasting impression on your family's vacation memories. On a clear, temperate summer's day, you'll even be able to spot Funkawan Bay and the Pacific Ocean.

If you have the nerve for it, a hot air balloon ride can be the crowning glory of your trip to Niseko Village, providing a bird's eye view of the mountain range some 30m below. Once you are safely back on solid ground, embrace the gifts of the terroir by sampling the seasonal delicacies in the village. Stalks of tender asparagus, ripe and juicy melons, and pearlescent sweetcorn (slathered with Hokkaido's famously creamy butter) will have you wishing that summer at Niseko could last forever.

For more information, visit www.niseko-village.com



Explore the wilderness on a mountain bike or on horseback. Either way, you'll be rewarded with fresh air and the kind of lushness that only Mother Nature can offer.

KEEN GOLFERS WILL RELISH THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONQUER THE 6,845-YARD NISEKO VILLAGE GOLF COURSE, WHILE THOSE WHO ENJOY A CHALLENGE CAN HEAD FOR THE FAIRWAYS OF NISEKO GOLF COURSE.





HEART OF SUNRISE

VENTURE TO THE LESS EXPLORED SIDE OF BALI IN THE NORTH WHERE THE CRISP COUNTRY AIR IS FRESHER, THE SUNSHINE AND THE SMILES ARE BRIGHTER, THE SKY IS BREATHTAKINGLY BLUE AND LIFE AMBLES AT A GENTLE PACE.

Words SIMON PRIDMORE

Spa Village Resort, Tembok on Bali's northeastern coast holds the key to the rich cultural treasures of the island and is surrounded by the bounties of Mother Nature. The ocean stretches away to the horizon in front; the mountains, mother volcano Agung and the vast crater wall of ancient Mount Catur, rise behind, circled by unspoilt countryside and traditional villages. This is Bali's heartland, a world away from the bustle of the towns in the south.

At 5.30am, the ocean is like gently undulating liquid glass. Waiting to take us out on a dawn cruise, drawn up on the black sand, is a shiny white, wooden fishing canoe known as a *jukung*.

We find our places as the driver Komang holds the craft steady. He and a colleague put their shoulders to the outriggers to free the boat of its earthly anchorage and set it free onto the water where it belongs. Once we are afloat, Komang hops in and expertly manipulates the rudder and motor to get us going.

The sky over the neighbouring island of Lombok to the east is already light. Komang cuts the motor and we sit absolutely still in the middle of the flat, inky, blue-black sea. The horizon starts to be streaked with yellow, red and orange. Then the edge of the star of the show appears, glowing bright and illuminating the surface of the ocean.

We see now that we are not alone. There are many *jukungs* around us, some with multi-coloured sails up and skittering across the sea, others trolling slowly for fish to feed hungry families and to sell in the market. Komang guides us back to the beach, skilfully surfing on a rippling wave. We ease ourselves out of the boat, and thank him for giving us such a memorable morning.

Next, we head for the hills. Les is a pretty hillside village with narrow lanes and numerous charming Hindu temples. Striking out across the surrounding rice fields, we find ourselves on a

path skirting a stream and then climb through plantations of bananas, jackfruit and pineapples. Stopping by a lady cutting open an enormous jackfruit casing to expose the fruit within, we ask to taste some and she obliges. She watches our faces as we bite into the rubbery flesh, and smiles broadly when she sees our pleasure.

A kilometre or so farther along the increasingly forested track, we come upon the Yeh Mempeh falls, where the river drops some 40m in a long narrow horsetail. We brought swimsuits and climb gingerly over the wet rocks into the shallow rock pool formed by the incessant torrent. The spray cools us instantly and we tentatively test the strength of this natural power shower: bracing but bearable is our conclusion.

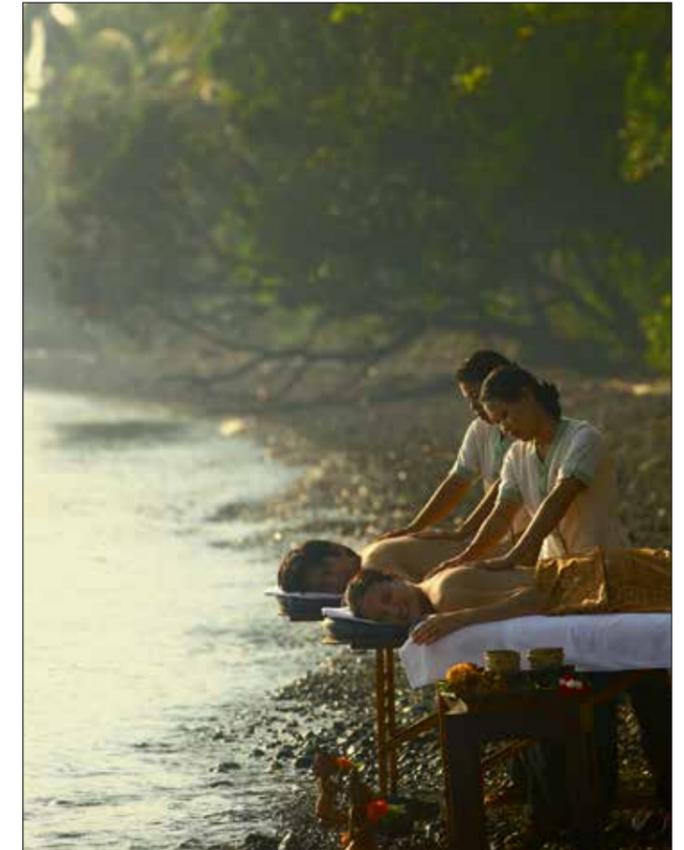
Back at the resort, it was soon time for a spa experience. The resort's spa has a menu emphasising and celebrating the healing traditions of its Tejakula location. Fresh-from-the-garden ingredients such as basil, neem, mint and lime are combined to gently exfoliate the skin as part of the Sangkarajaya therapy. This is followed by a treatment to relax scalp and facial muscles. A rhythmic full-body coconut oil massage completes this invigorating treatment.

Guests also enjoy frequent opportunities to learn about Balinese home crafts as well as immerse in local customs. The good humour of the staff as they share their traditions is infectious. We have a lot of fun writing on *lontar* palm leaves, mixing traditional health-giving elixirs called *jamu* from herbs and spices, and creating traditional religious offerings for the Balinese gods, small woven palm dishes containing flower petals, rice, a piece of candy and a burning incense stick.

The gods have certainly blessed us with unique experiences and cultural insights during our short stay in Bali's heartland. We are already planning our return.

For more information, please visit www.spavillage.com/tembokbali

THE RESORT'S SPA HAS A MENU EMPHASISING AND CELEBRATING THE HEALING TRADITIONS OF ITS TEJAKULA LOCATION.



The philosophy of well-being at Spa Village Resort Tembok, Bali extends beyond the traditional spa treatments available and encompasses every aspect of the resort, from activities and lifestyle to architecture and cuisine.



CONTEMPORARY CHIC IN SYDNEY

WITH ITS REFRESHED INTERIORS AND UPDATED RESTAURANTS, THE SYDNEY HARBOUR MARRIOTT HOTEL IS FAST BECOMING ONE OF THE CITY'S MOST POPULAR PLACES TO STAY AND TO BE SEEN AT.

Words M WILSON



THE FLAGSHIP RESTAURANT IS SILVESTER'S, WHICH PAYS HOMAGE TO THE CITY'S EARLIEST BUTCHERS, THE SILVESTER BROTHERS, WHO WERE ONCE BASED HERE.



One of the greatest draws in Sydney is its beautiful harbour along with the iconic Sydney Harbour Bridge and Opera House. Fronting the sparkling waters at Circular Quay, the well-placed Sydney Harbour Marriott Hotel and its stylish rooms offer splendid views of this legendary location.

The hotel has recently undergone a multimillion-dollar makeover, resulting in a fresh contemporary look, a new reception area as well as exciting new restaurants and bars. Arriving at the hotel, you step into the gleaming new marble lobby and reception, where you are

greeted with a warm and engaging welcome. A new booking app helps to make check-ins and departures as seamless as possible.

The flagship restaurant is Silvester's, which pays homage to the city's earliest butchers, the Silvester Brothers, who were once based here. An all-day venue, the 120-seat restaurant is classy yet the light-filled atrium continues to exude a casual air. Interiors feature a clever mix of textures as seen by the distressed timber flooring juxtaposed against brown marble and carpeting; plush chenille banquette seating versus barrel chairs and wooden tables. Open kitchens showcase the preparation of the freshest Australian fare, which comes from paddock to plate. Dishes such as the Cone Bay



Customs House Bar has been a fixture in Circular Quay for over 160 years. Facing page: The Sydney Harbour Marriott Hotel makes you feel at home whether you're here for business or on a relaxed family holiday.



barramundi with coorong pipis and parsnip, as well as the Darling Downs Grainge beef eye fillet, bone marrow and kiphler potatoes, are cooked in a style that nod respectfully to the Silvester Brothers and their craft.

Three Bottle Man is Sydney's charismatic new laneway café on Bulletin Place, named after the 18th-century British Prime Minister William Pitt, who famously always carried three bottles with him. With its long marble bar and original chequered floor, the cafe offers healthy breakfast options, an all-day snack menu featuring dishes like turkey and brie sourdough with smashed avocado. And, of course, three choices of every drink! In the evenings, with tables spilling out into the laneway, the laidback bar attracts both locals and visitors.

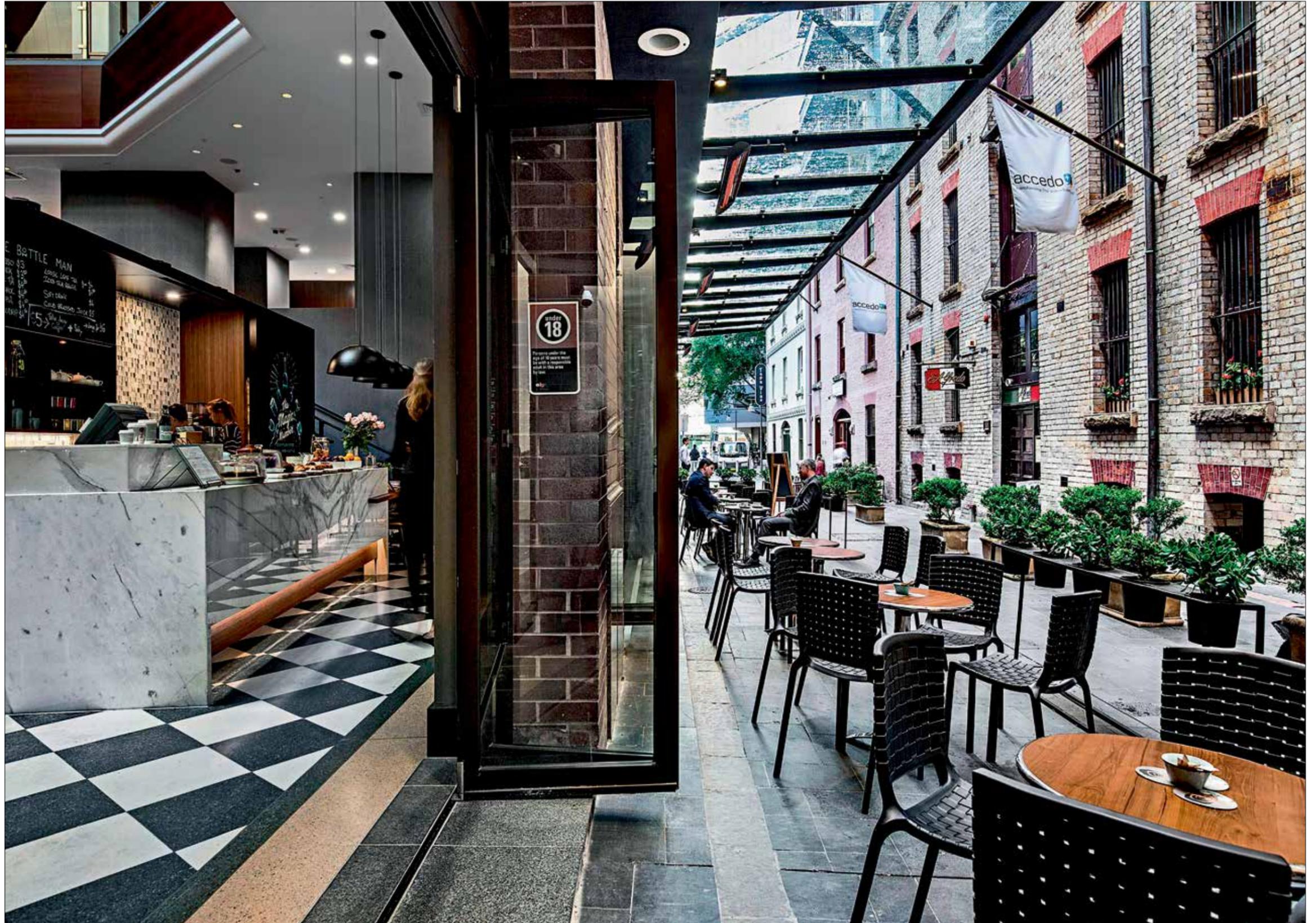
The Customs House Bar has been a fixture in Circular Quay for 160 years. With its makeover, this historic watering hole offers a traditional pub atmosphere as well as a scenic outdoor patio under the trees. Menus take inspiration from modern Australian cuisine featuring substantial sharing plates like the Meat Lover's Platter composed of beef brisket, mini chorizo, smoked sausage, pulled pork, Westmont pickle, smoked jalapeño mayo and soft buns.

The Sydney Harbour Marriott has always enjoyed an excellent position in the city's central business district. It's close to world-class shopping on George Street, Circular Quay, The Rocks, Harbour Bridge and the Opera House. Now, the hotel steps up as a serious contender in the city's food and beverage scene, offering a fabulous choice of settings for pre-event drinks, leisurely lunches or celebratory dinners.

For more information, visit www.marriott.com.au

THE SYDNEY HARBOUR MARRIOTT HAS ALWAYS ENJOYED AN EXCELLENT POSITION IN THE CITY'S CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT.

Three Bottle Man can be accessed via Bulletin Place or from within The Sydney Harbour Marriott Hotel and offers comfortable seating both inside and out.



BATH TALES

THE CITY ENTRANCES WITH CULTURE, HISTORY, ART AND PERFORMANCES — ALL THE RIGHT INGREDIENTS FOR A REWARDING WEEKEND TRIP.

Words MARK LEAN

“Bath is the worst place to get any work done,” so remarked the humanist British politician William Wilberforce in the 19th century.

The city, embedded in the rolling hills of Somerset, has a history dating to AD 60 when it was a Roman colony, regaled for its healing waters attributed to the blessings of the goddess Minerva. These famed springs containing over a million litres of mineral-empowered waters have healed both kings and commoners.

Today, Wilberforce’s view holds even greater sway. A UNESCO World Heritage Site, the city pulses with thriving culture, arts, theatre and food scenes, attracting local and international visitors to its compact, cobblestoned pathways lined with charming shops, cosy cafes and notable restaurants. Also in the area is the city’s only luxury hotel The Gainsborough Bath Spa and its Spa Village, both of which have placed

Bath on the radar of travellers who expect only the best.

The Grade II-listed 99-room hotel and its spa, named after the artist Thomas Gainsborough, comprises a quartet of former hospital structures — Bellott’s and Royal Hospital Building — that offers exclusive access to the city’s famous healthful thermal waters.

Room interior design is the work of New York-based Champaulimaud Design, combining subtle tones of grey and white that frame upholstery with hints of bucolic English country scenes. Amenities range from a high-tech selection of iPod docking stations, flatscreen HD televisions, retro Roberts radios with Bluetooth connectivity, complimentary Wi-Fi, and for guests’ comfort, radiant-heated bathroom floors.

All guests have access to the thermal pools at Spa Village. Known as the Bath House



The beautiful city of Bath hosts some of the finest museums and attractions in Europe, including the Roman Baths (right and below right) and Bath Abbey (below left).

ROOM INTERIOR DESIGN IS THE WORK OF NEW YORK-BASED CHAMPAULIMAUD DESIGN, COMBINING SUBTLE TONES OF GREY AND WHITE THAT FRAME UPHOLSTERY WITH HINTS OF BUCOLIC ENGLISH COUNTRY SCENES.



experience, it involves a sequence of natural thermal pools with differing temperatures, infrared and conventional saunas, a steam room, an ornate ice cove and spaces designed for unwinding while sipping a custom-created traditional Georgian hot chocolate peppered with cloves and chilli.

The treatment rooms are elegantly appointed in sophisticated shades of grey. Opt for an invigorating Ginger Renewal treatment, composed of a body exfoliation using ginger and minerals; a neck, shoulder and back massage using ginger oil and hot stones to unknot kinks; and ending with a warm body wrap to seal in all the healing and nurturing properties of ginger.

Beyond the spa, the city and its cultural attractions beckon. In summer, Bath switches on its considerable charms with events such as the Iford Arts Festival, held at Iford Manor’s Peto Gardens with opera performances in English,



concerts and proms. In mid-July, visitors descend on the city for the annual Bath Carnival. This year’s theme takes on a South American rhythm, complete with a Mardi Gras procession.

During the second week of September, the city celebrates one of the United Kingdom’s most respected writers. In its 17th year, The Jane Austen Festival is based on a theme from *Northanger Abbey*, published in 1817 and set in Bath. Among the planned activities are tours, theatre productions and book readings.

For a dose of culture and history from a different time, the American Museum is the only museum outside the United States displaying America’s multi-textural art forms. Located in Claverton Manor, the museum features exhibits such as the Jazz Age: Fashion and Photographs, taking place until 28 October. Besides the work of photographer James Abbe, who captured the modern world’s initial fascination with celebrities, the show includes displays of fashion objects from 1919 to 1929.

Bath is, indeed, a place where one gets little work done, though its distractions are invariably more welcoming than what Wilberforce imagined two centuries ago.

For more information, please visit www.thegainsboroughbathspa.co.uk

Created by award-winning Champalimaud Design, the rooms and suites at The Gainsborough Bath Spa are custom furnished, subtly referencing period details combined with contemporary forms.





PERENNIAL SIZZLE

FOR DECADES, SAINT TROPEZ'S RELAXED GLAMOUR AND HIGH STYLE HAS BEEN A MAGNET FOR THE INTERNATIONAL JET SET. AT MUSE SAINT TROPEZ, GUESTS ENJOY THE BEST OF THESE TWO WORLDS.

Words MARK LEAN



The jury is still undecided on whether it was Brigitte Bardot who vaulted Saint Tropez to world attention after the release of her career-defining 1963 film *When God Created Woman*. Or whether it was the former slumbering fishing town on the Côte d'Azur that set the scene for the French actress's ascent to superstardom. Regardless of what the answer may be, neither the celebrity nor the town has been the same since.

By ambling through Saint Tropez's cobblestone paths that line its streets six decades later, one still detects a charming Bohemian frisson. This extends from hippie-chic fashion behind window displays to shops peddling quirky objets d'art and posters, encouraged by Bardot in those early years, when the magic was just beginning.

Here, boutiques that coined the term resortwear long before such shows became permanent fixtures on the fashion world's calendar

sit alongside art galleries paying homage to art styles the town is known for around the world. There are also pastry shops such as La Tarte Tropicaine and its eponymous cream-filled brioche, which was put in the spotlight by the *When God Created Woman* film crew who came for their afternoon tea breaks, and enjoyed by countless other people since.

Inspirations are aplenty in this charismatic location. First-time visitors are never the same once they leave.

Saint Tropez (or if you're local, St-Trop) invariably sparked the genius of artists, painters, photographers and writers, all of whom were drawn to the town's creative energies in their multitude of forms. In the process, these individuals, the likes of whom include Paul Signac, Matisse, Pierre Bonnard, Albert Marquet, David Hockney, Donald Sultan and Stefan Szczesny, became legends.

A short distance from Place de Lices, known around the world as an epicentre where the international jet set converge, along the *route de plages*, is the

This chic retreat reflects the laid-back glamour of the Riviera.



THE AREA'S VISCERAL BEAUTY IS MATCHED BY THE HOTEL'S CLASSIC MINIMALIST INTERIORS, COLOUR-COORDINATED IN WHISPERS OF LIGHT CARAMEL AND CREAMY WHITE.





MEALTIMES, TOO, ARE CELEBRATORY AFFAIRS AT M, WHICH SERVES BREAKFAST, LUNCH AND DINNER. THE MENU IS FOCUSED ON LOCAL GARDEN PRODUCE AND HERBS AS WELL AS SEAFOOD.



more recent but equally legendary MUSE Saint Tropez. The elegant 15-suite property is gift-wrapped in a stunning well-tended tiered landscape. Towering cypress trees, pine forests, olive groves and rose bushes surround this ultimate sanctuary for the discerning.

The area's visceral beauty is matched by the hotel's classic minimalist interiors, colour-coordinated in whispers of light caramel and creamy white. Each suite (10 of which have private plunge pools) pays fitting tribute to 20th-century muses and their first names — Jean, Audrey, Sophia, Edith, Juliette, Greta, Catherine, Colette, Josephine, Ella, Gala, Lauren, Grace and Ava. The furnishings in the suites are the work of Henryot, the company that designed pieces for France's former royal house of Versailles, while bedding comprises sublime 800-threadcount Egyptian silk and cotton-blended sheets.

Intrinsic to MUSE Saint Tropez's philosophy of well-being and joie de vivre, some suites are equipped with spa amenities including massage tables. Therapists, trained in classic spa techniques and informed by intuition, utilise herbs and plants prevalent in the hotel's

vast gardens, distilling through a technique known as hydrolat, the purest oil extracts combined with a water base. This process ensures that the oils deliver maximum healthful benefits and that guests derive the best restorative experiences from their treatments.

Guests at MUSE Saint Tropez are known to stay for as long as two weeks – ample time to settle into Saint Tropez's easy rhythm and almost effortless routine of languid afternoons and evening glamour, if one so desires. The hotel's heated pool is its social heart with an adjacent bar facing cabanas and lounge chairs perfect for sinking into. To keep cool on hot afternoons, request the bartender to rustle up a MUSE cocktail. Or try a decadent Ladurée glace in flavours such as chocolate, lemon, caramel, pistachio and vanilla.

Mealtimes, too, are celebratory affairs at M, which serves breakfast, lunch and dinner. The menu is focused on local garden produce and herbs as well as seafood. For instance, Mediterranean red mullet, flavoured with sundried tomatoes, served with Venere rice and diced with chorizo Iberico.

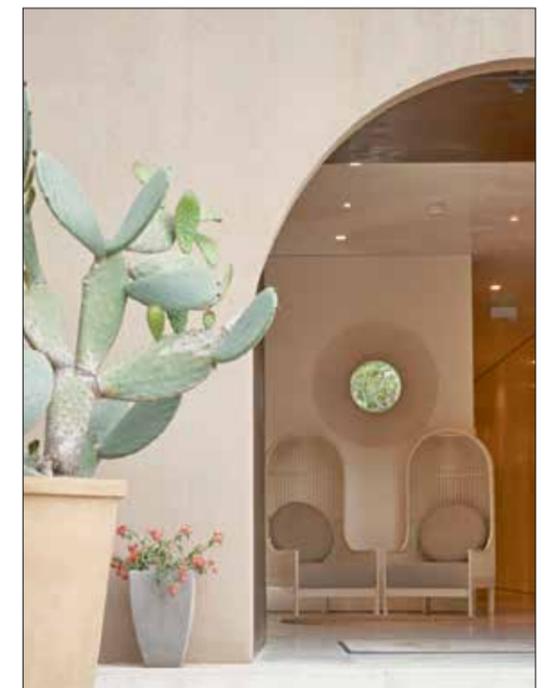
An artfully plated dish of cod with shellfish sauce and mousseline of sweet potato offers celebrations of colour, contrasting flavours and the freshness of just-caught seafood. Desserts are all about local fruits — red berries with Saint Tropez rosé along with nougat ice cream sprinkled with nuts from Piedmont, and dried fruits. All dishes from the menus at M are also available for in-room dining if guests prefer some alone time because at MUSE Saint Tropez, every whim is entertained and every request fulfilled.

For more information, please visit www.muse-hotels.com



From a warm welcome on arrival to the sun-dappled retreat to concierge services for organising helicopter transfers or restaurant reservations, the hotel is dedicated to meeting every guest's needs around the clock.

TO KEEP COOL ON HOT AFTERNOONS, REQUEST THE BARTENDER TO RUSTLE UP A MUSE COCKTAIL.





MODERN CLASSIC

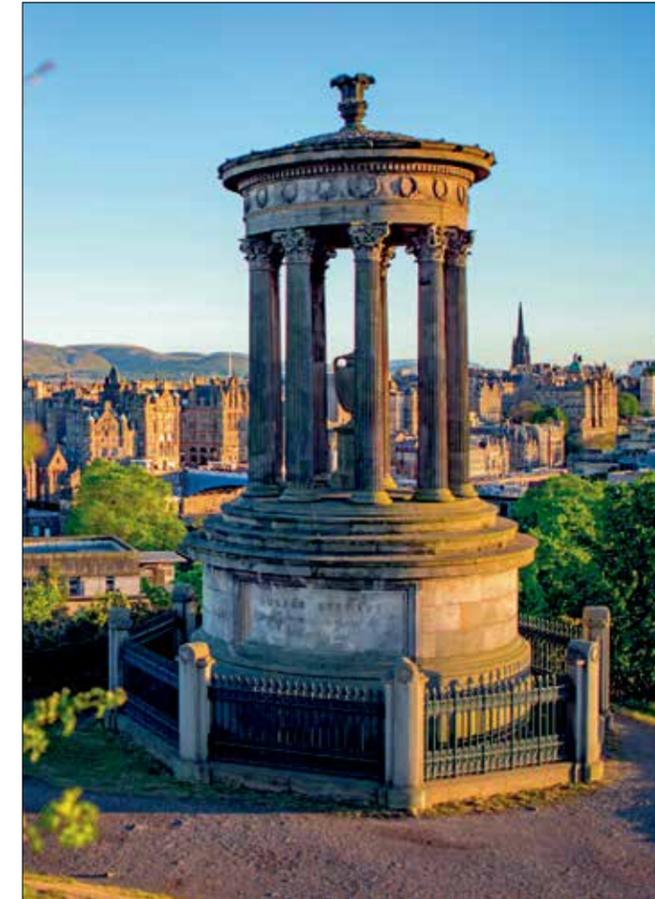
HISTORIC EDINBURGH ATTRACTS VISITORS FROM AROUND THE WORLD ALL YEAR ROUND. THE GLASSHOUSE HOTEL EDINBURGH, LOCATED AT THE CENTRE OF THIS STORIED CITY, IS THE IDEAL BASE FROM WHICH TO EXPLORE ITS MANY ATTRACTIONS.

Words [MARK LEAN](#)

With a population reaching over half a million, Edinburgh, a friendly city with a

hilly landscape, is both quaint and easy to get around by foot or public transport. Divided into two distinct quarters, the ancient Old Town and the more recent Georgian Old Town, the capital of Scotland is a pleasure to explore all year round. At the heart of the city, landmarks such as Edinburgh Castle and Holyrood Palace are veritable treasure mines of history, while Arthur's Seat, a hilly volcanic outcrop with active shale deposits, make for an adventure-filled day out.

Another of Edinburgh's popular attractions — Calton Hill, the perfect vantage point from

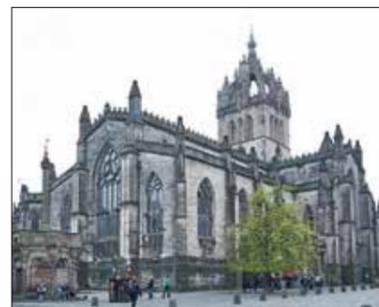


CALTON HILL, THE PERFECT VANTAGE POINT FROM WHICH TO VIEW THE CITY AND ITS SURROUNDING AREA, IS A MERE TWO-MINUTE WALK FROM THE GLASSHOUSE EDINBURGH.

which to view the city and its surrounding area, is a mere two-minute walk from The Glasshouse Hotel Edinburgh, an Autograph Collection Hotel. The 77-room five-star property is both historic and modern. Its entrance is composed of the former 160-year-old Lady Glenorchy church's facade. Designed by neo-Gothic architect John Henderson, the church was part of a series of chapels built by Lady Glenorchy (1741 — 1786) all over Scotland and Wales. This particular structure with its Tudor windows now melds seamlessly with the rest of the sleekly created interiors. This gives The Glasshouse Hotel its one-of-a-kind aesthetic.

All rooms and suites are air-conditioned, and equipped with Nespresso machines, complimentary super-fast fibre optic Wi-Fi; a range of Aromatherapy Associates bathroom products; dining tables for two; writing desks, en suite bathrooms; in-room mini bars, as well as personal safes. Room highlights include

Enjoy a delicious picnic at the roof garden of The Glasshouse Hotel Edinburgh; the hotel's facade is part of the former Lady Glenorchy Church.



the hotel's signature Garden View category with accommodations that have access to a 0.8-hectare rooftop garden as well as private seating areas to enjoy morning coffees or evening cocktails. The hotel's 16 Studio Suites are a spacious 50sqm each, and feature either balcony city or garden views; swivel televisions, heated bathroom floors; and lounge areas.

The Glasshouse Hotel's two restaurants — The Brasserie and The Snug — are all about making the most of local produce. The former capitalises on its culinary team's farming and foraging experience deliciously resulting in dishes that give respectful nods to Scottish cooking techniques, all of which are presented in delightfully innovative fashion.

Try dishes such as Crowdie, an inventive dish featuring whipped crowdie and leek rolls, sprinkled with pomegranate and radicchio; and the rustic ox tail barley and dark ale pie, served with beef, thyme potato mash, shallots and turnip baked in salt. For those with larger appetites, the hearty Scottish steak mince and venison burgers in a brioche bun, accompanied with Lochnagar cheese, woodland mushrooms, cherry tomatoes and watercress might do the trick.

The Snug, on the other hand, is a cosy space to meet for meetings over coffee or snacks, and transforms in the evenings into a bar replete with communal open fire — perfect for the colder months. One of the hotel's central highlights is its well-manicured rooftop garden, a flexible space that makes for a romantic wedding setting and impactful product launches. In the summer months, a Perrier-Jouet champagne bar opens in the garden — the perfect accompaniment to the picnics held when the sun is out.

The hotel's central location makes it convenient to reach both the airport and the train station. To get to the airport, hop on a tram on a 40-minute trip that begins at York Place, next to the hotel. Waverly Station, the city's main train interchange is also steps away.

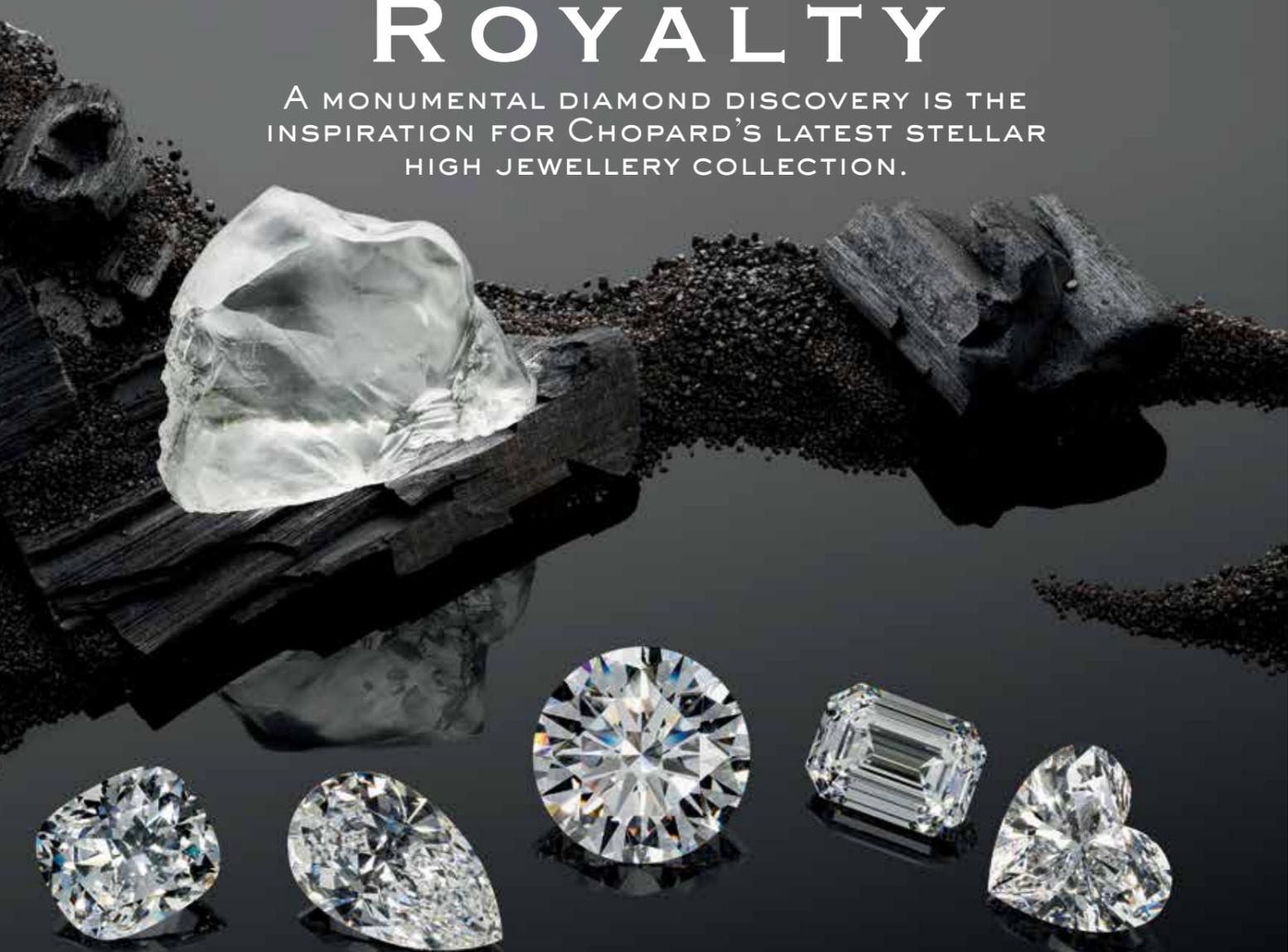
For more information, please visit www.theglasshousehotel.co.uk

TRY DISHES SUCH AS CROWDIE, AN INVENTIVE DISH FEATURING WHIPPED CROWDIE AND LEEK ROLLS, SPRINKLED WITH POMEGRANATE AND RADICCHIO.

Clockwise from centre: Calton Hill, a scenic vantage point, is a two-minute walk from The Glasshouse Hotel Edinburgh; The Henderson Gallery at the hotel incorporates a 160-year-old church facade into its space; The Brasserie; the 16 luxury Studio Suites are accented with silver-coloured textured walls, purples and plums.

ROCK ROYALTY

A MONUMENTAL DIAMOND DISCOVERY IS THE INSPIRATION FOR CHOPARD'S LATEST STELLAR HIGH JEWELLERY COLLECTION.



“The energy and emotional charge emanating from this gem are truly incomparable,” said Chopard’s artistic director and co-president Caroline Scheufele of the Queen of Kalahari diamond. Weighing 342 carats with the most prized D colour and perfect F clarity, the stone with the expertise of Chopard’s ateliers, was crafted into 23 diamonds, five of which were honed into cushion, brilliant, heart, emerald and pear cuts, each weighing over 20 carats. “Faced with this rough diamond, we had a number of potential options. I wanted to explore every possibility and to represent all diamond cuts,” explained Scheufele. The Gardens of Kalahari, the collection derived from the illustrious Queen of Kalahari, comprises two rings, a necklace, a bracelet, a pair of earrings and a secret watch. www.chopard.com



FANTASTIC FABLES

THE ANIMALS OF NOAH'S LEGENDARY ARK TAKE CENTRE STAGE IN VAN CLEEF & ARPELS' CHARMING JEWELLERY ENSEMBLE L'ARCHE DE NOÉ.

A tale as old as time comes to life in Van Cleef & Arpels' high jewellery collection, L'Arche de Noé, as the dazzling collection that takes a leaf from the story of Noah's ark. It features a compendium of beautiful animal pairs, spanning a great cross-section of the animal kingdom. The 60-piece collection, set in brilliant assortments of hard and fine precious stones, comprises clips shaped in the forms of elephants, parrots, penguins, racoons, koalas, zebras, monkeys, rabbits, stags and even Morpho butterflies. Adding undeniable cachet to the collection is the Mystery Set composed of three mystical creatures: the phoenix, the unicorn and the pegasus. www.vancleefarpels.com



With its glittering procession of animals, the maison's new high jewellery collection takes an affectionate look at the tale of Noah's Ark.

FABULOUS FIVE

A QUINTET OF STANDOUT PIECES FROM BASELWORLD 2017.

Words VISHAL BHASKARAN

The centenary of Basel's premier watch exhibition was an exercise in horological vision, creativity and technical expertise. Here are our top picks.

Patek Philippe World Time (RM517,500)

Reference 5131/1 depicts the world map from the perspective of the North Pole in cloisonné enamel, with depth and realism afforded by true-to-life colours on the 18-carat gold dial plate.



Romain Jerome Deep Blue Octopus (CHF19,950)

This 25-piece limited edition features elements of the cephalopod. Eight screws match the tentacles, while the inner strap incorporates its suction cups.



Omega Speedmaster Racing Master Chronometer (from RM33,500)

The distinctive minute-track style debuts with this new collection, offered in stainless steel or 18-carat Sedna gold for its 44.25mm case.



Chopard Mille Miglia Classic XL 90th Anniversary Limited Edition (price upon request)

This 90-piece limited edition has snailed counters on the white dial surrounded by a tachometric scale.



Hublot Techframe Ferrari 70 Years Tourbillon Chronograph (from RM570,100)

This piece was created and designed by Ferrari around the beating heart of its Hublot engine.

THROUGH THE DECADES

70 YEARS AFTER ITS LAUNCH, BOUCHERON'S REFLET MAINTAINS ITS ENDURING APPEAL.

One of Boucheron's most elegant releases, the Reflet is a timepiece as current today as when it was created in 1947. Highlights include sculpted gadroons around its light-reflecting dial capture, referencing the maison's drapery tradition. Blow gently on the timepiece's glass surface, and as if by magic, a hologram of the Vendôme column appears — a hint at the house's historic Paris address. The defining feature of the Reflet, however, is its invisible clasp that allows for interchangeable straps. This year, Boucheron releases eight new straps in either leather or fabric, adding to the collection composed of — fittingly — 70 variations.

www.boucheron.com

The Reflet watch is the perfect balance between a jewel and a timepiece, combining jewellery creativity and watchmaking expertise.



12 THINGS TO DO IN EDINBURGH IN 48 HOURS

THE SCOTTISH CAPITAL IS A THRILLING SHOWCASE OF CULTURE, CUISINE AND THE ARTS. HERE ARE A SELECTION OF ACTIVITIES DESIGNED TO MAXIMISE YOUR TIME IN THE CITY.

Words [MARK LEAN](#)





AS THE SUN RISES OVER EDINBURGH, TAKE A SHORT WALK UP CALTON HILL, WHERE YOU WILL FIND PANORAMIC VIEWS OF THE CITY AND THE RIVER FORTH.



**6.05AM
CALTON HILL**

As the sun rises over Edinburgh, take a short walk up Calton Hill, where you will find panoramic views of the city and the River Forth. Warm clothing is recommended, as the morning winds can be chilly.

**8.30AM
THE BRASSERIE**

The light-filled Brasserie at The Glasshouse Hotel Edinburgh is just the spot to tuck into a traditional (and delicious) Scottish breakfast of haggis, blood pudding, sausages, mushrooms, bacon and an egg served sunny side up.

**11.00AM
MERCAT TOURS**

Meet outside St. Giles Cathedral, located on the city's High Street, for one of Mercat Tours two-hour walking adventures that cover historic locations such as Holyrood Palace and Edinburgh Castle, as well as themed ghost and underground tours. www.mercattours.com

**2.33PM
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND**

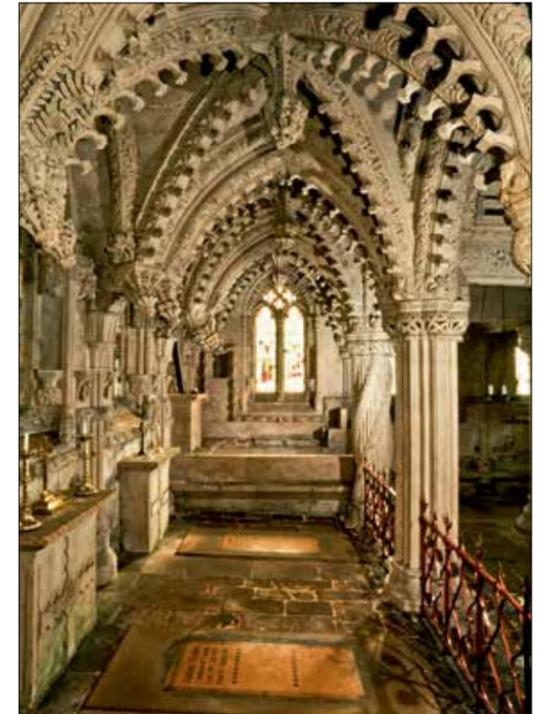
Spend an afternoon uncovering the mysteries of Ancient Egypt (31 March to 3 September) along with other exhibits spanning the history of Scotland, the worlds of nature, art, design, technology, fashion, and science at the National Museum of Scotland. Admission is free. www.nms.ac.uk/national-museum-of-scotland

**3.30PM
SUMMERHALL**

As the United Kingdom's third largest multi-arts centre, Summerhall, the site of a former brewery, is where all artistic pursuits converge in Scotland. Check out its website (www.summerhall.co.uk) for a comprehensive list of activities and exhibitions taking place throughout the year.

**8.20PM
THE GARDENER'S COTTAGE**

As one of the city's top tables, The Gardener's Cottage makes



Clockwise from far left: National Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh Castle, Rosslyn Chapel, The Gardener's Cottage and Summerhall. Facing page from top: Calton Hill and a Scottish breakfast at The Brasserie.

for a dining experience to remember and savour. Highly recommended: the seven-course dinner menu that showcases seasonal ingredients sourced in the area, the dishes of which take on a decidedly garden theme. www.thegardenerscottage.co

**9.01AM
ROSSLYN CHAPEL**

Spending a morning at Rosslyn Chapel and its surrounding forest, both of which came to world attention in the film *The Da Vinci Code*, is a journey back in time (to 1446 when the chapel was constructed). www.rosslynchapel.com

**11.45AM
YVETTE JELFS**

"I think my hats are desirable because they reconnect people to their humanity ... my clients feel the





COMPLETE THE EVENING WITH A GLASS OF THE FINEST SCOTTISH WHISKY AT THE GLASSHOUSE EDINBURGH'S THE SNUG.



FOR DINNER, HEAD TO STOCKBRIDGE, AN UPSCALE NEIGHBOURHOOD WITH AN INTERNATIONAL SELECTION OF RESTAURANTS AND BARS.



presence of the person who crafted the object," explains milliner Yvette Jelfs. For a made-to-order statement creation, visit Jelfs at her workshop in the National Scotland Trust building.
www.yvettejelfs.com

2.18PM ARTHUR'S SEAT HIKE
Writer Robert Louis Stephenson described the 251-metre Arthur's Seat as "a hill for magnitude, a mountain in virtue of its bold design," and it is certainly true that the views are both impressive and inspiring. The climb takes approximately 45 minutes, covering terrain that is part of a now-extinct volcano that erupted 340 million years ago.

7.20PM THE GLASSHOUSE HOTEL EDINBURGH
As the city winds down for the day, retreat to one of The Glasshouse Hotel's Studio suites with city-facing vistas — perfect for sunsets.

8.10PM STOCKBRIDGE
For dinner, head to Stockbridge, an upscale neighbourhood with an international selection of restaurants and bars including Stockbridge Restaurant and Purslane, both of which highlight the freshest local ingredients.

10.42PM THE SNUG
Complete the evening with a glass of the finest Scottish whisky at The Glasshouse Edinburgh's The Snug.

Stockbridge.
Facing page
clockwise from top left:
Yvette Jelfs millinery,
The Snug, Arthur's Seat
and The Glasshouse
Hotel Edinburgh.



GAYA ISLAND RESORT
DISTINCTIVELY BORNEO



PANGKOR LAUT RESORT
ONE ISLAND. ONE RESORT



TANJONG JARA RESORT
UNMISTAKABLY MALAY



CAMERON HIGHLANDS RESORT
TRAILS, TALES AND TRADITIONS



SET WITHIN TUNKU ABDUL RAHMAN MARINE PARK, GAYA ISLAND RESORT IS A JEWEL LOCATED OFF THE CAPITAL OF SABAH, KOTA KINABALU. GOLDEN SANDY BEACHES AND CRYSTAL-CLEAR WATERS TEEMING WITH MARINE LIFE ARE COMPELLING ATTRactions, WHILE ITS SPA VILLAGE OFFERS OPPORTUNITIES TO SAMPLE AUTHENTIC BORNEO-INSPIRED HEALING AND WELLNESS THERAPIES.
WWW.GAYAISLANDRESORT.COM

THIS LUXURIOUS RESORT IS SET ON A PRIVATE TROPICAL ISLAND ON THE STRAITS OF MALACCA. VILLAS EITHER FRINGE THE HILLSIDE OR ARE GRACEFULLY BALANCED ON STILTS OVER WATER. AN AWARD-WINNING SPA VILLAGE OFFERS WORLD-CLASS TREATMENTS DERIVED FROM CHINESE, INDIAN AND MALAY HEALING TRADITIONS.
WWW.PANGKORLAUTRESORT.COM

TANJONG JARA RESORT ON THE EAST COAST OF PENINSULAR MALAYSIA EMBODIES THE ESSENCE OF MALAY CULTURE AND TRADITIONS. FACING THE SOUTH CHINA SEA AND SURROUNDED BY THE LUSH GREEN BEAUTY OF THE LOCAL COUNTRYSIDE, TANJONG JARA RESORT REVEALS A QUIETER BUT EQUALLY ATTRACTIVE SIDE TO MALAYSIA.
WWW.TANJONGJARARESORT.COM

EVOKING THE SPLENDOUR, THE ROMANCE AND THE NOSTALGIA OF ONE OF MALAYSIA'S OLDEST HILL STATIONS AND ITS GRAND COLONIAL HERITAGE, CAMERON HIGHLANDS RESORT WITH ITS LUXURIOUS ROOMS AND AWARD-WINNING SPA VILLAGE IS THE BEST PLACE TO TAKE IN THE AREA'S ROLLING HILLS, TEA PLANTATIONS, ROSE GARDENS AND STRAWBERRY FARMS.
WWW.CAMERONHIGHLANDSRESORT.COM



THE RITZ-CARLTON
KUALA LUMPUR



JW MARRIOTT
KUALA LUMPUR



AUTOGRAPH COLLECTION
HOTELS

HOTEL
STRIPES
KUALA LUMPUR

AUTOGRAPH COLLECTION
HOTELS



LOCATED IN KUALA LUMPUR'S GOLDEN TRIANGLE BUSINESS DISTRICT, THIS STYLISH LUXURY HOTEL IS CONVENIENTLY POSITIONED FOR UPSCALE SHOPPING, DINING AND ENTERTAINMENT. IT IS HOME TO AN AWARD-WINNING SPA, AND GOURMANDS WILL BE DELIGHTED BY THE INDULGENT AFTERNOON TEA EXPERIENCE AS WELL AS LI YEN'S STELLAR CANTONESE CUISINE.

WWW.YTLHOTELS.COM

LOCATED ALONG BUKIT BINTANG ROAD AT THE HEART OF KUALA LUMPUR, JW MARRIOTT IS IDEAL FOR BUSINESS AND LEISURE TRAVELLERS. WITH WORLD-CLASS SHOPPING MALLS NEARBY, THIS CONVENIENTLY LOCATED HOTEL WITH ITS EXTENSIVE RANGE OF FACILITIES IS ONE OF THE CITY'S FINEST.

WWW.YTLHOTELS.COM

FULLY RESTORED TO ITS FORMER GLORY, THIS ELEGANT 1930S PROPERTY MARRIES HISTORY WITH WORLD-CLASS HOSPITALITY. DINING OPTIONS INCLUDE HAINANESE FAVOURITES AT COLONIAL CAFÉ AS WELL AS AN INTERACTIVE DINING EXPERIENCE AT CONTANGO, WHILE THE ROOMS ARE A BLEND OF CONTEMPORARY STYLE AND OLD-WORLD FINESSE.

WWW.MAJESTICKL.COM

HOTELSTRIPES IS THE SECOND AUTOGRAPH COLLECTION HOTEL IN MALAYSIA. IT COMBINES A MODERN VIBE AND HISTORICAL REFERENCES TO ITS LOCATION, ONE OF KUALA LUMPUR'S OLDEST NEIGHBOURHOODS. WITH CONTEMPORARY GUESTROOMS AND SUITES, THE HOTEL IS A CONVENIENT BASE TO EXPLORE THE MALAYSIAN CAPITAL'S MANY ATTRACTIONS.

WWW.STRIPESKL.COM

The Glasshouse
EDINBURGH

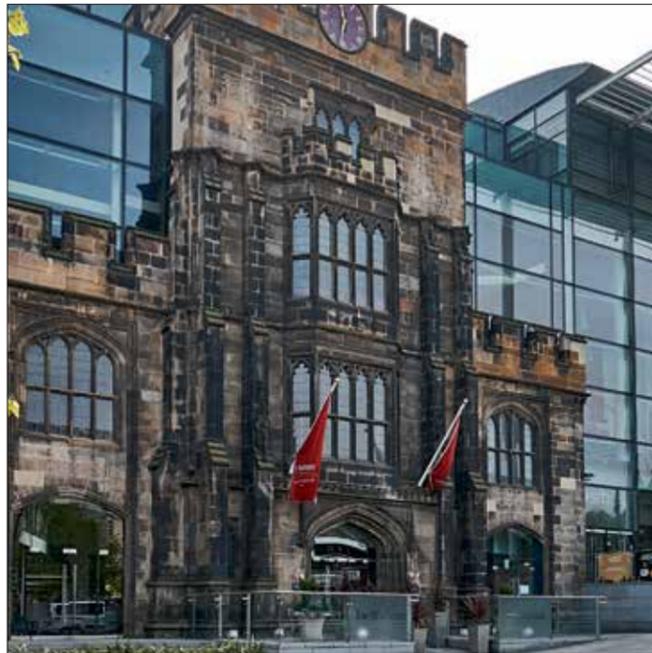
AUTOGRAPH COLLECTION®
HOTELS

Threadneedles
LONDON

AUTOGRAPH COLLECTION®
HOTELS

THE
GAINSBOROUGH
BATH SPA

Shook!
RESTAURANT &
ROOFTOP TERRACE



THIS LUXURY BOUTIQUE HOTEL IS CONSIDERED ONE OF THE BEST PLACES TO STAY IN EDINBURGH, WITH COSY CONTEMPORARY INTERIORS, WARM SCOTTISH SERVICE AND CONSISTENTLY SPECTACULAR VIEWS OF THE CITY CENTRE, CALTON HILL OR THE HOTEL'S 0.8-HECTARE ROOFTOP GARDEN.

WWW.THEGLASSHOUSEHOTEL.CO.UK

THIS FORMER VICTORIAN BANK HAS BEEN TRANSFORMED INTO A DISCREET, BOUTIQUE-STYLE HOTEL, CROWNED BY AN ELEGANT STAINED GLASS DOME, AN UNEXPECTED FIND IN THE CITY'S HEART. THE HOTEL EXUDES GRANDEUR IN A THOROUGHLY MODERN WAY, WHILE SERVICE IS POLISHED; IT'S ALSO UNPRETENTIOUS AMID THE BUSTLE OF SQUARE MILE.

WWW.HOTELTHREADNEEDLES.CO.UK

THE GAINSBOROUGH BATH SPA OFFERS THE ONLY NATURAL THERMAL SPA WITHIN A HOTEL IN THE UK. THE HOTEL IS A MOMENT'S STROLL FROM BATH ABBEY, THE HIGH STREET STORES ON MILSOM STREET AND THE ROMAN BATHS, WHICH MAKES IT A CHOICE LOCATION FROM WHICH TO EXPLORE THE CITY AND ITS NEARBY ATTRACTIONS.

WWW.THEGAINSBOROUGHBATHSPA.CO.UK

SHOOK! SHANGHAI OCCUPIES THE PENTHOUSE FLOOR OF THE SWATCH ART PEACE HOTEL, A RENAISSANCE-STYLE 1906 HERITAGE LANDMARK ON THE BUND. THE CELEBRATED RESTAURANT FEATURES A SHOW KITCHEN WHERE SIGNATURE DISHES FROM FOUR CUISINE STYLES ARE CREATED AND ADAPTED FROM SEASONAL TRENDS AND INGREDIENTS.

WWW.SHOOKRESTAURANTSHANGHAI.COM



A GLAMOROUS AND PRIVATE HIDEAWAY IN THE SOUTH OF FRANCE, MUSE SAINT TROPEZ IS ALL ABOUT THE HIGH LIFE. LOCATED IN RAMATUELLE AND SURROUNDED BY FORESTS OF UMBRELLA PINES, THIS BOUTIQUE PROPERTY FEATURES JUST 15 SUITES, EACH OF WHICH IS NAMED AFTER FAMOUS 'MUSES'. MAKE THE HOTEL YOUR BASE TO EXPLORE THE SIGHTS, THE SOUNDS AND THE DELIGHTS OF THE RIVIERA.

TWO GORGEOUS AND LUXURIOUS VILLAS, WITH NINE AND SIX BEDROOMS RESPECTIVELY, OFFER COUNTRYSIDE LIVING, TRANQUILLITY AND PEACE, AS WELL AS THE SECURITY OF AN EXCLUSIVE RESIDENTIAL ESTATE. THE VILLAS, IDEAL FOR EXPLORING THE FAMOUS COSTA DEL SOL, ARE IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO ALL TYPES OF AMENITIES.

WWW.MUSE-HOTELS.COM

WWW.MUSE-HOTELS.COM



AN AUTHENTIC JAPANESE MACHIYA ARCHITECTURAL SETTING INTERWEAVES THE MODERN AND THE TRADITIONAL IN A GENTEEL VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT. NISEKO VILLAGE OFFERS SHOPPING AND DINING OPTIONS APLENTY. MERE MOMENTS FROM AWARD-WINNING HOTELS, RESIDENCES AND LIFTS, ITS SLOPESIDE LOCATION ALLOWS FOR SEAMLESS SKI-IN, SKI-OUT ACCESS.

WWW.NISEKO-VILLAGE.COM

THE SURIN

PHUKET



SITUATED ON PANSEA BEACH, ONE OF PHUKET'S MOST PRIVATE STRETCHES OF SAND, THE SURIN OFFERS A PERFECT SLICE OF THAI BEACH LIFE. THE COTTAGES AND SUITES ARE BUILT INTO A CAREFULLY CONSERVED LANDSCAPE. FROM SUMPTUOUS CUISINE TO WATERSPORTS, THE SURIN COMBINES IDYLIC TROPICAL CHARM WITH THE WARMTH OF THAI HOSPITALITY.

WWW.THESURINPHUKET.COM

BLACK VOLCANIC SAND, THE MAJESTIC MOUNT AGUNG, THE DEEP BLUE OF THE INDIAN OCEAN AND THE MYSTICAL BALINESE WAY OF LIFE COME TOGETHER IN STYLE AT SPA VILLAGE RESORT TEMBOK, BALI. LOCATED IN THE NORTH OF THE ISLAND, THE RESORT IS A HAVEN OF WELLNESS, WHERE GUESTS CAN ENJOY ALL THE BENEFITS AND PLEASURES OF SPA LIFE IN TRANQUIL SURROUNDINGS.

WWW.SPAVILLAGERESORT.COM/TEMBOKBALI



REGARDED AS THE CRADLE OF MALAYSIAN HISTORY, MALACCA IN ITS HEYDAY WAS A PORT-CITY THAT WELCOMED SPICE TRADERS, SULTANS AND WARRIORS. SOAK UP THE MAGIC AND THE HISTORY AT THE MAJESTIC MALACCA, THE CITY'S FINEST HOTEL, BUILT IN THE 1920S, AND FURNISHED WITH INTERIORS INDICATIVE OF THE CITY'S RICH CULTURE.

WWW.MAJESTICMALACCA.COM



SOUTHEAST ASIA



THE EASTERN & ORIENTAL EXPRESS EPITOMISES THE GRANDEUR, LUXURY AND ROMANCE OF RAIL TRAVEL FROM A BYGONE ERA. JOURNEY AMID THE TRAPPINGS OF OLD-WORLD OPULENCE ACROSS THREE COUNTRIES, THROUGH THE ENTIRE LENGTH OF PENINSULAR MALAYSIA, ON A ROUTE CONNECTING THE SOUTHEAST ASIAN METROPOLISES OF SINGAPORE AND BANGKOK.

WWW.YTLHOTELS.COM

FeastVillage at STARHILL GALLERY



FEAST VILLAGE AT STARHILL GALLERY IS THE FIRST OF ITS KIND IN MALAYSIA. IT OFFERS UNPARALLELED DINING EXPERIENCES FEATURING 13 UPSCALE RESTAURANTS WITH AN EXOTIC ARRAY OF CUISINES RANGING FROM ASIAN TO MEDITERRANEAN. THE MEANDERING LANE WAYS OF THE RUSTIC, MULTI-ETHNIC VILLAGE AND ITS MULTI-COLOURED 'TIME TUNNEL' TAKE DINERS ON JOURNEYS OF SENSORIAL DISCOVERY.

WWW.FEASTVILLAGE.COM



THE SPA VILLAGES CELEBRATE THE HEALING CULTURE OF THE REGION IN WHICH EACH IS BUILT. EACH SPA VILLAGE HAS ITS OWN CHARACTER AND AUTHENTICITY, HONOURING LOCAL HEALERS AND TRADITIONS THAT HAVE BEEN PASSED DOWN THE GENERATIONS.

PANGKOR LAUT | TANJONG JARA | KUALA LUMPUR | CAMERON HIGHLANDS | MALACCA | GAYA ISLAND | TEMBOK, BALI | HANGZHOU | BATH
WWW.SPAVILLAGE.COM



EACH AUSTRALIAN MARRIOTT HOTEL IS SITUATED WITHIN THE CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT OF ITS CITY AND IDEALLY POSITIONED TO SERVE BUSINESS AND LEISURE TRAVELLERS. THE 563-ROOM SYDNEY HARBOUR MARRIOTT IS SET IN THE HEART OF CIRCULAR QUAY, OVERLOOKING THE HARBOUR BRIDGE AND OPERA HOUSE. THE 186-ROOM MELBOURNE MARRIOTT IS CLOSE TO THE CITY'S THEATRE PRECINCT, SHOPPING DISTRICTS AND CHINATOWN. BRISBANE MARRIOTT, WITH 263 ROOMS AND FOUR SUITES, IS PLACED BETWEEN BRISBANE'S CBD AND THE FORTITUDE VALLEY HUB, CLOSE TO SHOPPING, RIVERSIDE DINING AND THE CITY'S COMMERCIAL DISTRICT AND CULTURAL ATTRACTIONS.

EMBRACE THE NEW VISTANA VIBES IN THREE CHOICE LOCATIONS ACROSS MALAYSIA. EXPERIENCE FRIENDLY, EFFICIENT SERVICE, BE IT AT CHECK-IN OR DEPARTURE. THE COMFORTABLE ROOMS COME WITH PRACTICAL AMENITIES THAT ARE SUITED TO WORK OR RELAXATION, PLUS THERE IS COMPLIMENTARY WI-FI THROUGHOUT THE HOTEL. RELAX AT BARISTA, THE 24-HOUR COFFEE BAR, AND ADJACENT COMMUNICATIONS CENTRE, HUB 247, FOR A QUICK BUSINESS BREAKFAST, OR SIT DOWN TO FRESH HOT MEALS AT CAFE. VISTANA HOTELS IS ALWAYS WELCOMING, ALWAYS CONNECTED.



DOWNLOAD THE LATEST ISSUE OF YTL LIFE ON MAGZTER (FOR ANDROID USERS) AND APPLE NEWSSTAND WITH OUR COMPLIMENTS!



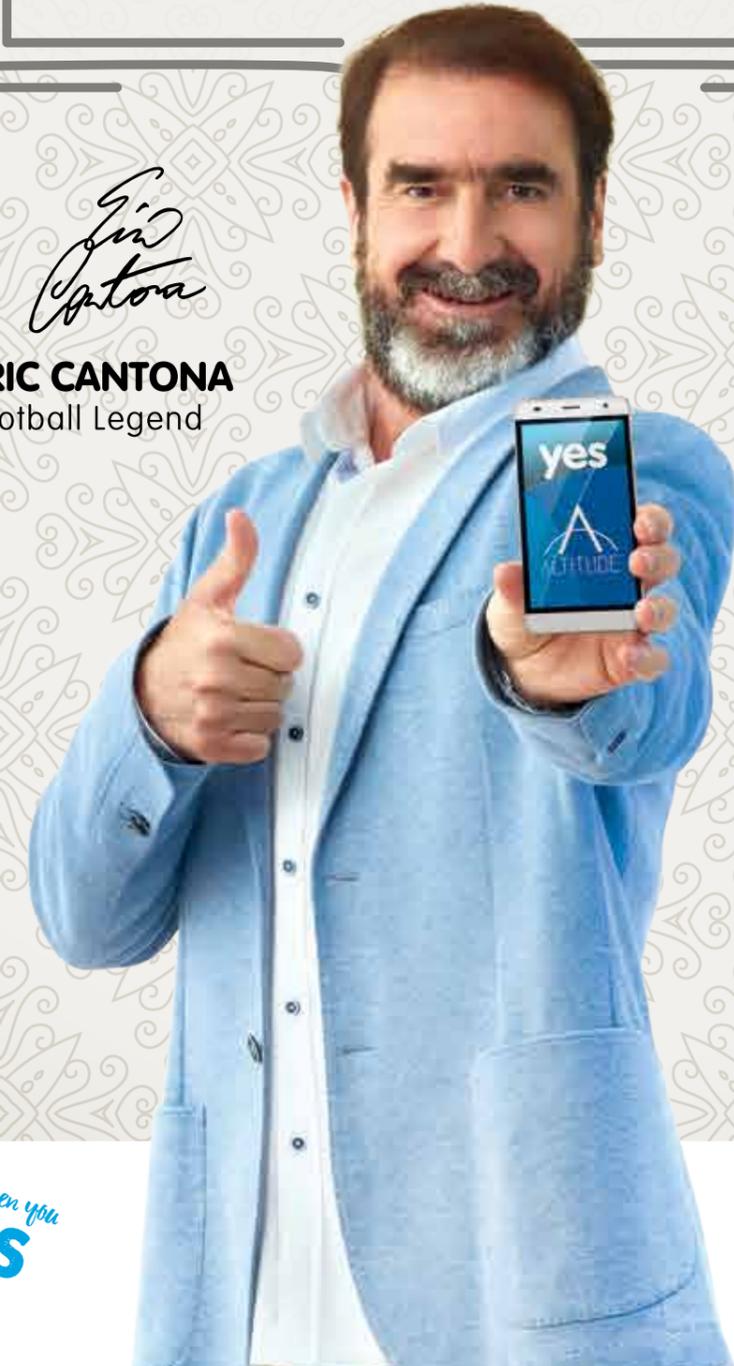
yes

**I've said Yes.
Have you?**

Join me on this amazing 4G LTE network.

Eric Cantona

ERIC CANTONA
Football Legend



Amazing things happen when you
SAY YES

Q&A: MAX BÜSSER

YTL LIFE CATCHES UP WITH THE FOUNDER OF EXPERIMENTAL WATCH BRAND MB&F TO FIND OUT ABOUT HIS CREATIVE PROCESSES, FAMILY HOLIDAYS AND PERIPATETIC LIFE.

Words MARK LEAN



HOW DOES YOUR SCHEDULE IN A YEAR LOOK?

The 'book-ends' are the craziest, meaning the first three months of the year with SIHH and Baselworld (we participate in both) and the last four months where our little brand participates in about 10 watchmaking events worldwide. So I tend to be much more creative between April and September when there are fewer operational distractions.

DO YOU FIND TIME FOR HOLIDAYS?

Now that I have a family, I do. Before I could go for a couple of years without. My company was my life. As we live in Dubai next to the sea, holidays are mostly hiking around mountains during summer or visiting northern European regions. We had five fantastic days in Stockholm last year.

HAVE YOUR CREATIVE PROCESSES CHANGED OVER THE YEARS?

Very much so. 12 years ago at the beginning

of MB&F, I doodled and sketched, letting my pencil roam consciously or unconsciously on the paper. Now, concepts just 'appear' in my head. It is weird and often unnerving. An idea will just form itself in my mind and I can play with it in 3D as if it was a computer CAD program.

WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT THING MB&F HAS TAUGHT YOU?

An important lesson is that my ideas are worth nothing without all the talented people around me who transform these ideas into reality.

WHAT PROJECTS ARE YOU CURRENTLY WORKING ON?

Too many! New MB&F Horological and Legacy Machines, performance art pieces with fellow-creators, co-creations we are designing for our friends from L'Épée, Caran d'Ache and others, and the artists we are curating in our MAD Galleries. My mind is a little cluttered! Oh, I am working on a second brand which I hope to maybe launch at the end of 2018 or in early 2019.



DISCOVER A DESTINATION SPA WITH ALL THE RIGHT INGREDIENTS.

Black volcanic sand. Green towering peaks. Blue Bali sea.

For enquiries or reservations, please contact YTL Hotels Travel Centre at travelcentre@ytlhotels.com or call +60 3 2783 1000

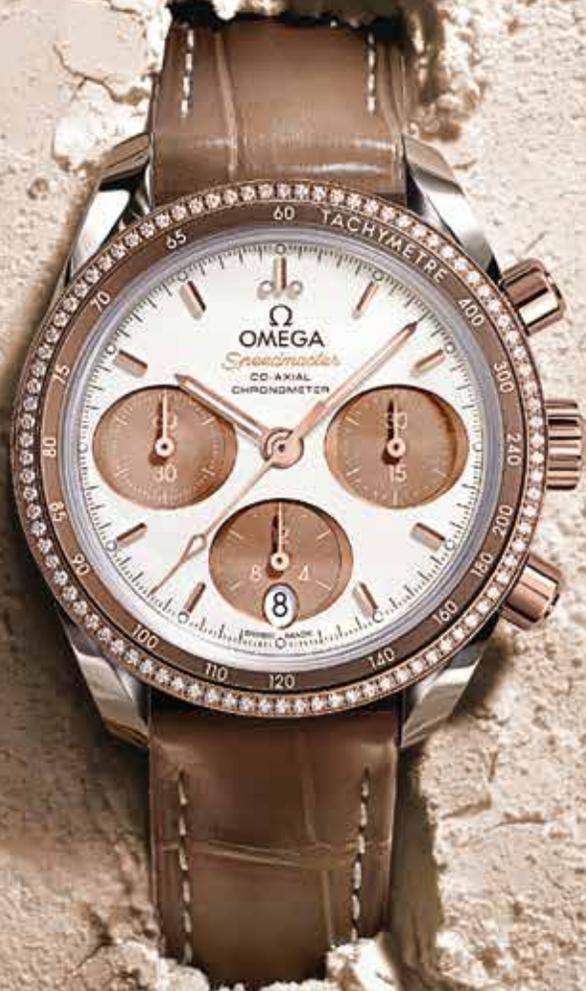
A YTL LUXURY SPA RESORT



www.ytlhotels.com
www.spavillageresort.com/tembokbali

YTL HOTELS
Treasured Places, Treasured Moments

OMEGA




OMEGA
Speedmaster
38 mm