

DESTINATIONS OF THE WORLD  
**news**

Essential travel intelligence

April 2020

**PALATIAL  
PROPRIETARY**

Own your own palace –  
Tivoli Palácio de Seteais  
to be precise

**HISTORY  
REVISITED**

Explore the jewel in  
Jeddah's crown

**MOROCCAN  
MYSTIQUE**

The all-new Dior Institut  
makes its mark on Marrakech

S P I R I T O F  
**ARABIA**

BEAUTIFUL HOTELS TO DREAM ABOUT, FROM SAUDI TO DUBAI

EXCLUSIVE TIMEPIECES



EXQUISITE JEWELS



UNIQUE ESCAPES



LUXURY CARS





«Some watches  
tell time.

**Some tell  
a story »**

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# LUXURY LIVES IN THE FINER DETAILS

A world of refined elegance awaits at Habtoor Palace Dubai, from graceful public spaces to richly decorated rooms and designer suites, award-winning cuisine and soothing spa treatments, this is where life is lived well and where luxury lives in the finer details.





Royal Suite



Royal Suite



HABTOOR PALACE  
DUBAI

L X R  
HOTELS & RESORTS

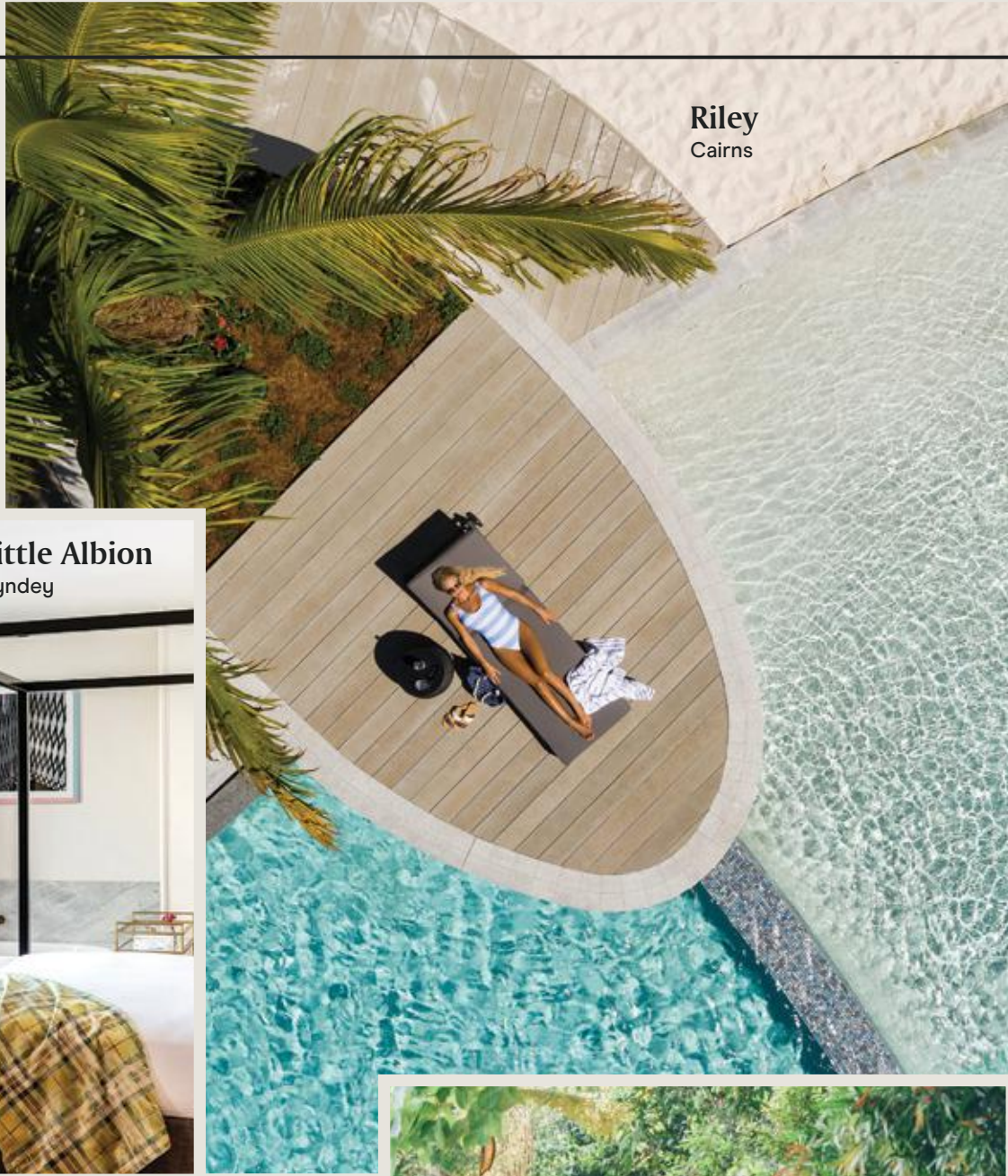
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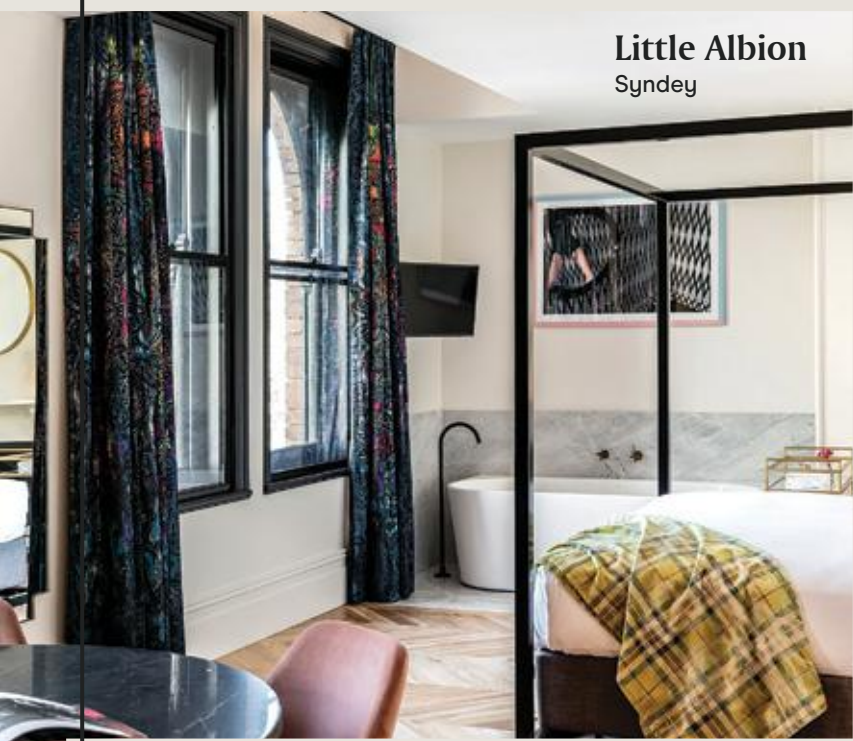
**Kingsley**  
Newcastle



**Riley**  
Cairns



**Little Albion**  
Sydney



**Bailey**  
Cairns



**Australia**

Sydney | Cairns | Byron Bay | Newcastle

**Byron at Byron**  
Byron Bay





Flynn  
Cairns

# Crystalbrook Collection

Hotels and Resorts

## Responsible luxury

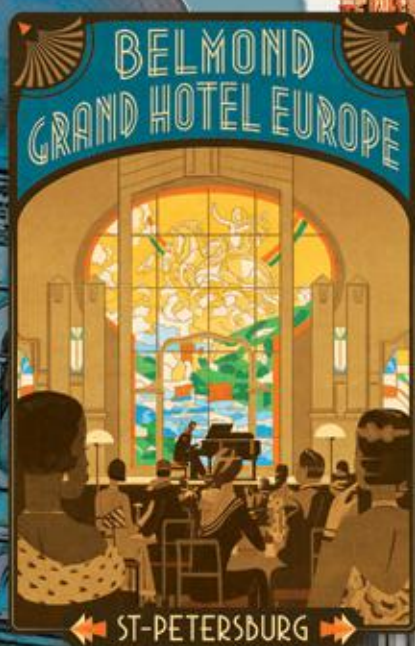
[crystalbrookcollection.com](https://crystalbrookcollection.com)



# BELMOND GRAND HOTEL EUROPE

ST PETERSBURG

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## NEW LIFE FOR A HISTORIC LONDON ADDRESS



LONDON'S OLD WAR OFFICE, where military leaders including Winston Churchill, David Lloyd George and Lord Kitchener once held office, is undergoing a major renovation that will see the historic building turned into a luxury 125-room hotel and 85 serviced residences. Collectively known as The OWO, the hotel and residences will be managed by legendary

hotel brand Raffles, adding to its collection of European hotels in Paris, Warsaw and Istanbul.

Guestroom interiors are being imagined by New York designer Thierry Despont – whose past triumphs include Claridges, several Dorchester Collection properties and the Statue of Liberty, no less – while the residences are being created by 1508 London. The latter

recently won acclaim for The Lanesborough Club and Spa, which won the award for England's Best Hotel Spa in the 2019 World Spa Awards. In addition to the rooms and residences, The OWO will include nine restaurants and bars, a destination spa and boutique retail when it opens in early 2022.

[www.raffles.com](http://www.raffles.com)

## CHECK INTO A SIGNATURE SUITE IN MAYFAIR



WITH ITS ENVIABLE POSITION on London's Grosvenor Square, The Biltmore Mayfair has quickly become a must-stay for discerning travellers bound for the UK capital. Spring sees the launch of signature suites: eight exclusive spaces that take the luxury London experience to the next level with a collection of unique design and service touches.

The one- and two-bedroom suites include townhouse-style duplexes and sprawling single-level abodes like the Chairman Suite and Presidential Suite. All feature floral artwork and sculptures and elegant jewel-toned interiors, with tufted silk and wool rugs, hand-made furniture and bespoke quilted leather-clad Maxi-bar cabinets by interior designer firm KCA International. Bathrooms

feature Penhaligon's amenities and monogrammed bathrobes, and junior visitors will have own kids' bathrobes, amenities and non-alcoholic minibar.

To celebrate the new additions, The Biltmore has teamed up with French fashion designer Roland Mouret to offer his acclaimed 'Myrtha' dress in a limited-edition shade of dusty charcoal. Suite guests can arrange an in-suite fitting with a Roland Mouret tailor via their private butler and, if desired, take the dress home for £1,450 (approx. \$1,725).

Signature suites at The Biltmore Mayfair – the first European outpost of Hilton's LXR Hotels & Resorts – start from £2,600 (\$3,090) per night.

[www.thebiltmoremayfair.com](http://www.thebiltmoremayfair.com)





## GAUDÍ VIEWS AND BUBBLES ON THE ROOFTOPS OF BARCELONA

THE NEOCLASSICAL FAÇADE OF MAJESTIC HOTEL & SPA Barcelona cuts a fine figure as you walk up the Passeig de Gràcia, the wide thoroughfare stretching from Plaça de Catalunya to the Gracia neighbourhood that's lined with some of the city's finest architecture. The grand old hotel – former haunt of Ernest Hemingway and Spanish poet Antonio Machado – has been owned by the Soldevila-Casals family since it opened in 1918, and recently underwent a five-year renovation overseen by interior designer Antonio Obrador.

Continuing the long history of classical luxury guests have come to expect at the Majestic, the hotel has unveiled the Royal Penthouse, Obrador's enormous signature suite on the top floor that claims the accolade of being the largest in the city. The 467-sqm suite has two outdoor terraces overlooking Paseo de Gracia and the rooftops of the city, affording spectacular views of Gaudí landmarks such as Casa Batlló and the Sagrada Familia from the comfort of the al fresco lounge area or rooftop Jacuzzi. Inside, two beautifully appointed bedrooms lead out into an Oriental themed lounge area with seating for 14 and a separate dining room, both featuring silk screen prints, Italian furniture and fabrics by Gancedo and Ralph Lauren.

In addition to a private butler and the services of a car and driver for the duration of their stay, Royal Penthouse guests are treated to a custom-stocked maxibar with beverages and snacks, and a Bar à Parfum containing five full-sized fragrances by Atelier Cologne Maison Parfum Paris and a smaller gift set to take home.

[www.hotelmajestic.es](http://www.hotelmajestic.es)



## A RURAL ESCAPE IN THE IRISH COUNTRYSIDE



ORIGINALLY BUILT IN 1739, CARLTON HOUSE IN COUNTRY KILDARE, Ireland, is a grand country escape on land once owned by one of the most powerful families in Ireland, with a lineage dating back to the 12th Century. Following a major multi-million Euro renovation due to conclude by the end of the year, the property will reopen as Fairmont Carlton House, becoming the fourth Fairmont-managed hotel in the UK and Ireland. Dublin-based McCauley Daye O'Connell Architects is

overseeing the refurbishment, which will transform the historic building into a luxurious hotel with 170 guestrooms and suites, three restaurants and a lobby bar, wellness facilities and extensive conference and events space. But the highlight for active visitors is the two 18-hole championship golf courses and the promise of refreshments on the 19th hole at The Carriage House.

[www.fairmont.com](http://www.fairmont.com)



# Debut | April

HOT HOTELS, CHIC BOUTIQUES AND EXCLUSIVE NEW RESORTS  
HERE'S OUR PICK OF THE WORLD'S MOST LUXURIOUS NEW LAUNCHES



## SIX SENSES BUMTHANG Bumthang, Bhutan

Surrounded by pine trees in a hilltop glade, Six Senses Bumthang looks out across an ancient valley dappled with centuries-old monasteries and sacred monuments, putting visitors in the heart of the Bhutanese physical and spiritual landscape. After days spend trekking or biking through the lush landscape, touring palaces or foraging for mushrooms, guests can unwind in the lodge's traditional dotsho hot stone bath or feast on seasonal fare in Tongtshang restaurant, before retiring to their pine-clad suite. Bumthang joins Six Senses' collection of Bhutanese lodges: one overlooking the magnificent Phobjikha Valley; one in a pine forest on a hillside overlooking the capital Thimphu; one amid the rice paddies of Punakha, close to the mighty Punakha Dzong fortress; and the fourth high above the Paro Valley, a few hours' hike from the iconic Tiger's Nest Monastery. [www.sixsenses.com](http://www.sixsenses.com)

## ROSEWOOD YANGON Yangon, Myanmar

The three-storey colonnades of the New Law Courts in Yangon have extended a stately welcome to visitors since 1927, when the city was part of the British Empire. Almost 100 years later, the grand colonial building has reopened as Rosewood Yangon, complete with 205 lavish guestrooms and suites designed by New York-based Lillian Wu Studio, many with private balconies or patios and décor fashioned by local artisans and craftsmen. Most of the original interior design features have been retained, including cast iron balustrades and perforated metal screens that allow air to circulate around the building: an early form of air conditioning. Five dining venues by Tokyo-based Bond Design Studio include NOVA European Brasserie, where at least 70 per cent of ingredients come from Myanmar and its oceans, and CourtRoom Bar, where dark teak wall panelling evokes the romance of times gone by while guests explore the selection of bespoke cocktails. [www.rosewoodhotels.com](http://www.rosewoodhotels.com)



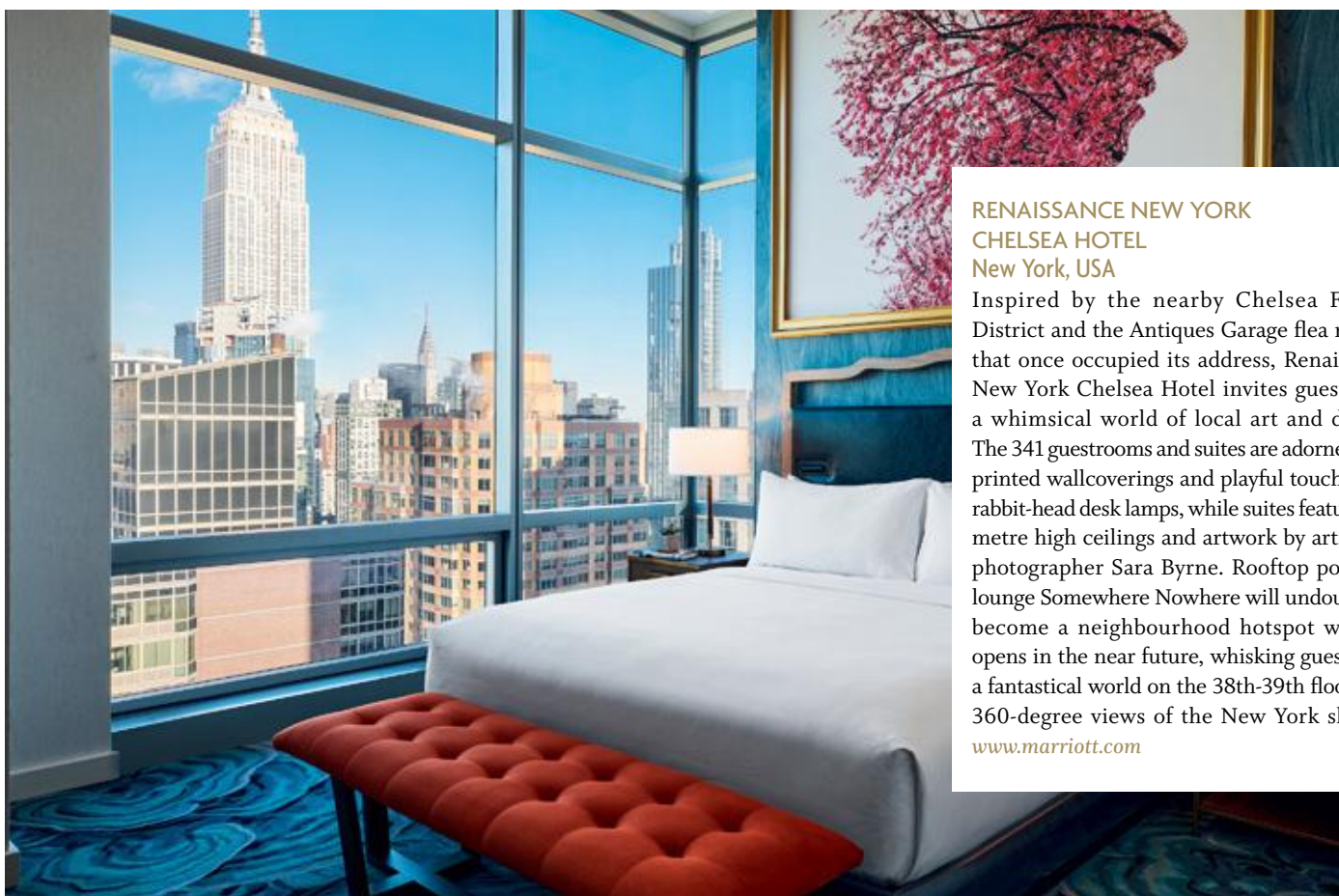




**GRAN HOTEL BRISTOL**  
Havana, Cuba

Less than three years after unveiling Gran Hotel Manzana Kempinski La Habana, the European hotel company has opened the doors to its second Cuban address: Grand Hotel Bristol. Set with in a 1930s colonial building with a modern extension raising the roof by an additional three storeys, the hotel offers a fresh take on the boutique lifestyle hotel experience, with 162 guestrooms and suites inspired by the Art Deco style of the '30s. Guests can enjoy privileged views of the National Capitol Building from the rooftop pool deck and top-floor El Capitolio restaurant, and there's also Latin-inspired tapas at El Diamante, nutritious local fare at Pasos Perdidos lobby bar and casual dining at La Muralla Club. Later this year, Kempinski will open its third Cuban property on an island off the north coast: Cayo Guillermo Resort Kempinski Cuba.

[www.kempinski.com](http://www.kempinski.com)



**RENAISSANCE NEW YORK  
CHELSEA HOTEL**  
New York, USA

Inspired by the nearby Chelsea Flower District and the Antiques Garage flea market that once occupied its address, Renaissance New York Chelsea Hotel invites guests into a whimsical world of local art and design. The 341 guestrooms and suites are adorned with printed wallcoverings and playful touches like rabbit-head desk lamps, while suites feature 4.2-metre high ceilings and artwork by artist and photographer Sara Byrne. Rooftop pool and lounge Somewhere Nowhere will undoubtedly become a neighbourhood hotspot when it opens in the near future, whisking guests into a fantastical world on the 38th-39th floor with 360-degree views of the New York skyline.

[www.marriott.com](http://www.marriott.com)



# THE SPIRIT OF ARABIA

Travel without travelling with our staycation special, as we curate an edit of some of our favourite local heroes across the UAE, for desert stays to urban escapes. Then, find out which hotel is the jewel in Jeddah's crown

**WORDS:** Emily Baxter-Priest







### QASR AL SARAB DESERT RESORT BY ANANTARA

On the outskirts of Abu Dhabi lies The Empty Quarter, the world's largest sand desert, and rising up from flame-coloured dunes like a mirage is Qasr Al Sarab Desert Resort by Anantara. As secluded as they come, you'll see nothing but undulating dunes during your stay, as the 206-key hotel invites the utmost in lavish escapism. Earth-tone rooms, suites and villas seamlessly marry rustic yet regal design, while in-the-know travellers book either a pool villa that comes with butler, outdoor shower and private pool, or an opulent 130sqm Royal Pool Pavilion that is secluded from the main resort, and features a pool, cabanas, indoor/outdoor dining areas and, of course, a private butler too. Your desert adventure is all-encompassing at Qasr Al Sarab: traverse the Rub' al Khali by camelback, watch a falcon and Saluki show, dine atop a dune under the desert skies, unwind with a Moroccan hammam, or simply hole up and revel in your uninterrupted oasis and watch the sun set over the sands. Here, the only real onus is on allowing your desert journey to elicit awe, romance and the spirit of Arabia. We promise, it won't be hard to do.

[www.anantara.com](http://www.anantara.com)



UAE STAYCATIONS

# DOUBLE IMPACT

Thoughtful thinking at Caesars Bluewaters  
Dubai ensures that its integrated two-  
property luxury offering elevates  
the notion of something for everyone









# Van Cleef & Arpels

HAUTE PARFUMERIE



COLLECTION EXTRAORDINAIRE



# SPEND IT

UNIQUE EXPERIENCES AND SOPHISTICATED ESSENTIALS



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#### LUNAR LANDING

Vacheron Constantin's new Égérie Moon Phase watch is a diamond-studded ode to femininity, bridging the worlds of jewellery and couture. The 37mm-diameter white gold case flows into a white gold bracelet, both entirely bedecked in diamonds. As Ramadan approaches, moon sightings have never been more ethereal.

- 76** Gilded treasures await with gold-tinted Ramadan buys
- 78** It's all elemental: watches in silver and gold
- 80** The Lamborghini Urus gets put through its paces
- 88** Own your own palace (for the day) in Portugal



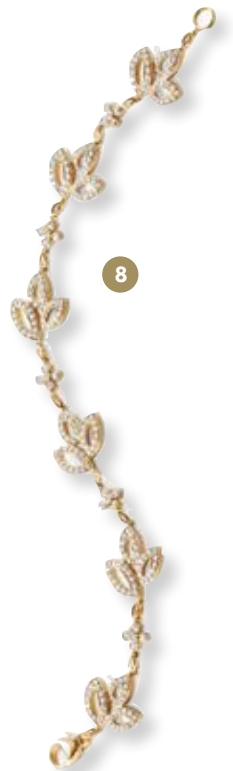
**COLOUR ME HAPPY**  
Messika's Splash Nacre  
Blanche necklace, from  
its Lucky Move Colour  
collection, is a mystical  
and sentimental medallion,  
with rose gold, iridescent  
mother-of-pearl and a trio  
of moving diamonds



# A GOLDEN AGE

Spirit yourself away to halcyon days, where gilded treasures await  
– the most beautiful accompaniments for iftars, suhoors  
and everything in between





8



9



10



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- 1.** Crescent Moon necklace, Fabergé,
- 2.** Cloud brooch, Chaumet
- 3.** Ring, Bvlgari
- 4.** Armoiries necklace, Boucheron
- 5.** Tweed Cordage earrings, Chanel
- 6.** Ring, Gucci
- 7.** Earrings, Tiffany Blue Book Collection
- 8.** Lily Cluster bracelet, Harry Winston
- 9.** Pin, Dolce & Gabbana
- 10.** Chevalière B Blossom ring, Louis Vuitton
- 11.** Ring, Mahallati
- 12.** Rose Céleste ring, Dior



# IT'S ALL ELEMENTAL

Celebrating the beauty of Ramadan with  
argent and aureate timepieces, each perfect  
for keeping an eye on the time this month



Audemars Piguet's new [Re]master01 watch is a contemporary remastering of the brand's past creations, updated with the latest mechanics. The 40mm watch features an 18-carat pink gold bezel, yellow gold-toned dial, and blue chronograph hands.  
[www.audemarspiguet.com](http://www.audemarspiguet.com)



SPEND IT WATCHES



Self-winding 31mm Classima Lady, with mother-of-pearl and diamond-set bezel  
www.baume-et-mercier.com

Dazzling Rendez-Vous 36mm watch, with mother-of-pearl dial surrounded by 168 diamonds  
www.jaeger-lecoultre.com



Frivole Secrète watch in yellow gold with diamonds and quartz movement  
www.vancleefarpels.com

Audemars Piguet Royal Oak Automatic 32mm in 18-carat frosted pink gold, also available at Net-a-Porter  
www.audemarspiguet.com



Defy Midnight timepiece in 36mm case, gradient mother-of-pearl dial and 11 brilliant-cut diamonds  
www.zenith-watches.com



La D de Dior Satine watch with 19 mm yellow gold case and bezel and crown set with diamonds  
www.dior.com

Marine Dame 9518 in white gold, 33.8mm with white mother-of-pearl and diamonds  
www.breguet.com



L'Heure du Diamant watch in rose gold, light pink dial and burgundy leather strap  
www.chopard.com









A L L A B O U T  
FLAVOUR

Everybody and their dog seem to be producing an SUV these days, and Lamborghini is no different. Kris Karacinski gets behind the wheel of the Urus to see if this raging bull likes to buck

PHOTOS: Eliot Sleep



SPEND IT OUT OF THIS WORLD



# OWN YOUR OWN PALACE

Portugal's Tivoli Palácio de Seteais could be yours for the day, for an unparalleled experience of history and elegance

LOCATED IN PORTUGAL'S BEAUTIFUL SINTRA MOUNTAINS, Tivoli Palácio de Seteais is an 18th-century neo-classical palace, filled with history and charm. If you want in on a slice of its magic, sign up for its 'Own a Palace for a Day', and journey back in time for a romantic look at life in a luxury palace. Yes, that's right... For the princely sum of €30,000, you can take up residence and claim ownership for 24 hours.

The hotel's design brings together the romanticism of bygone days, with its period architecture, beautiful tapestries and frescos, and its elegance and atmosphere of the XVIII century. Inside, there are 30 individually and exquisitely designed rooms – all belonging to you throughout your stay – with the Presidential Suite featuring 18th and 19th-century décor, Dona Maria-style furniture, living room and balcony with views over the hotel's cabana-flanked swimming pool and down to the sea. The bucolic grounds are home to numerous mazes, with the fresh scent of roses, hydrangeas and camellias punctuating the air, allowing for scented strolls around your palatial residence. Sintra itself is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, so you're in good company, and beyond the palace you'll find antique shops, Moorish Castle, Pena Palace and the esoteric Quinta da Regaleira. Live like royalty, leave with even richer memories. [www.minorhotels.com](http://www.minorhotels.com)

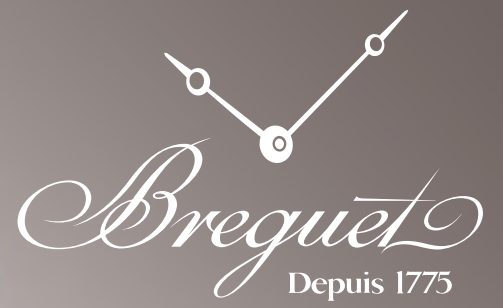


# BOUCHERON

PARIS







Breguet  
Depuis 1775



Breguet La Marine  
Marine Lady 9518