

VANITY FAIR

HOLLYWOOD 2016

ON TRAVEL

*"Luxury lies not in richness and ornamentation
but in the absence of vulgarity"*
— COCO CHANEL

The HOTEL GAME CHANGERS

the most directional names for 2016

By VICTORIA MATHER

KENYA

KEEPING *the* FAITH

By VICTORIA MATHER

INDIA

the princely pavilions of
RAJASTHAN

By VICTORIA MATHER

ETHIOPIA

Praises sing to its miraculous
ROCK CHURCHES

By AIDAN HARTLEY

THIS TIME IT'S WAR

a magical history tour of
NORWAY

By NICHOLAS SHAKESPEARE

Plus

MARIELLA FROSTRUP on why PAXOS packs a punch;
LUCY CAVENDISH on MOZAMBIQUE; RACHEL JOHNSON on hiking the LYCIAN WAY;
BREAKFASTS, ARCHIPELAGOS and the STARRIEST FOUR-STARS IN THE KNOWN GALAXY



The majestic Chilean night sky

Funfair

← **CESAR ANZA, TIERRA ATACAMA HOTEL & SPA**

The celestial bodies twinkling above your head in the unpolluted skies of Chile's Atacama Desert take on a magical significance with Tierra Atacama's César Anza. A native Atacamán, he intertwines his scientific knowledge with traditional Andean stargazing, learnt from his shepherd parents, to mystical effect. You will begin to see llamas and foxes in the dark places between the stars and learn the local cosmological traditions, superstitions and beliefs. Two-night all-inclusive packages cost around £950 per person, including a stargazing trip. tierrahotels.com



The Peninsula, Beverly Hills

→ **AIMEE HYATT, THE PENINSULA BEVERLY HILLS, LOS ANGELES**

You might be familiar with hatha, ashtanga and iyengar, but doga? That's a new one. Downward dog takes on a whole new meaning, with yoga for pampered pooches in the care of Aimee Hyatt. Doubles from around £375 per night on a room-only basis. Treatments from £58. peninsula.com/beverlyhills



→ **THE CURRY SISTERS, PARROT CAY, TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS**

Two really can be better than one. Globetrotting Andrea and Christina Curry's yoga retreats combine vinyasa, hatha, pranayama and meditation during their retreats, and teach each class together. A real sister act. Doubles from £325, room only. A six-night retreat costs around £3,900 per person, full board, with all activities. comohotels.com



The Curry sisters



Nature-spotting in Langkawi with Irshad Mobarak

↑ **IRSHAD MOBARAK, THE DATAI, MALAYSIA**

A few hours in the company of The Datai's resident naturalist, Irshad Mobarak, will have you looking at the flora and fauna of Langkawi in a whole new way. Mobarak ditched his banking job to fulfil a childhood dream: immersing himself in nature. Spring off your sun lounger to explore the ancient rainforest and try to spot some of the island's 220 indigenous bird species and 500 types of butterfly. Doubles from £250, room-only. Nature walks are complimentary for guests. thedatai.com

THE BEST
IN-HOUSE EXPERTS
By AOIFE O'RIORDAIN

↓ **COLIN FIELD, THE RITZ, PARIS**

No more crying into bad martinis, as Colin Field is reinstated at the Hemingway Bar at the newly renovated Ritz Paris this month. After 21 years on the rue Cambon, Field's bartending skills are legendary. One of his signature tipples is the Serendipity: a concoction of Calvados, champagne and apple juice that he calls "France in a glass". Doubles from around £730, room only. ritzparis.com



The Ritz Paris

PRICES MAY BE SUBJECT TO FLUCTUATION. PAUL MORRISON (TIERRA ATACAMA NIGHT SKI); PENINSULA BEVERLY HILLS (PENINSULA DOG); CURRY SISTERS (RITZ); THE DATAI LANGKAWI (WATERFALL); BARTER N-SHERMAN (CURRY SISTERS)



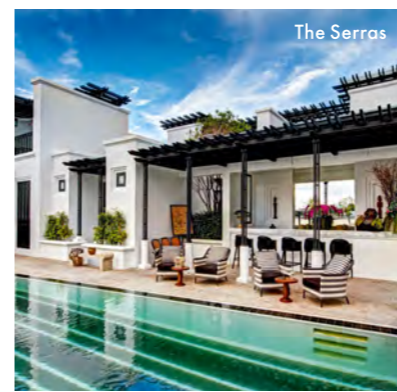
Four Seasons Grand-Hôtel du Cap-Ferrat
Inset: swimming expert Pierre Gruneberg

↑ **PIERRE GRUNEBERG, FOUR SEASONS GRAND-HOTEL DU CAP-FERRAT**

Charismatic swimming coach Pierre Gruneberg has been pacing the French Riviera's Grand-Hôtel du Cap-Ferrat's Olympic-sized salt-water pool dispensing his innovative techniques for would-be water babies for over 65 years. Gruneberg swims to the Cap-Ferrat lighthouse and back every day—he's his own best advert for taking the plunge. Doubles from around £235; a one-hour swimming lesson with Pierre Gruneberg costs around £70. fourseasons.com/capferrat

↓ **ARJAN BOO, THE SIAM HOTEL & SPA, BANGKOK**

Body art is elevated to another level by The Siam's tattooist Arjan Boo. Sak Yant is 2,000-year-old tattooing tradition said to bestow the wearer with special powers and protection. A former monk, Boo was trained by a master at the Wat Bang Phra Temple outside



The Serris

Bangkok. More akin to a religious ritual than a rite of passage, Boo's delicate craft is carried out amid wafting incense and Buddhist statues in the hotel's Opium Spa. Cara Delevingne and Michelle Rodriguez have both gone under his needle—no pain, no gain. Doubles start at £335. Sak Yant costs from £650. thesiamhotel.com



Arjan Boo expertly applies Sak Yant tattoos
Above: The Siam Hotel & Spa, Bangkok

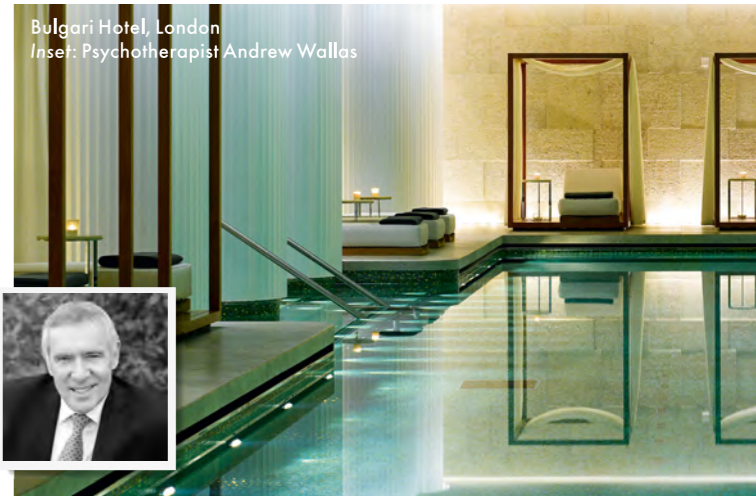
Funfair

↓ **ANDREW WALLAS, BULGARI HOTEL, LONDON**

If your life feels slightly off-kilter, hand yourself over to the emotional alchemy of this self-styled Modern Day Wizard. With easy charm and 30 years' experience as a psychotherapist, Andrew Wallas helps clients remove the obstacles standing in their way. If it all sounds like mumbo-jumbo, just ask his clients—many check in just to see him. Doubles from £510, room-only. A session with Wallas costs £600. bulgarihotels.com



Bulgari Hotel, London
Inset: Psychotherapist Andrew Wallas



← **HEIKI HANSO, PADASTE MANOR, ESTONIA**

Everyone remembers the wobbly-legged thrill of childhood tree-climbing. Guests at the stately Pädaste Manor on the Estonian island of Muhu can recreate the feeling with an afternoon scrambling up to the treetops under the watchful eye of Heiki Hanso. Hanso takes guests to the ancient woodlands surrounding the estate, ropes them up, and the masterclass begins. His other job is as a professional botanical surgeon, so he's an extremely safe pair of hands. Doubles from around £210, B&B. Tree climbing starts at £590. padaste.ee



Pädaste Manor, Estonia
Below: taking to the treetops

