

*The Mall at* SHORT HILLS

Fall 2014

***THE BEST  
OF FALL***

PERFECT PIECES  
TOP TRENDS  
BRILLIANT IDEAS

## OH, THE PLACES YOU'LL GO

The world is waiting, so pack your bags and go—whether for a weekend, a week, a fortnight, or a month.

By James Sturz and Paula de la Cruz

These are destinations your neighbors don't know about yet but will be anxious to visit once they've heard your travel tales. Fly, drive, ride, hike, bike, dive, dine, snorkel, fish, paddle, or sail (and be sure to squeeze in a massage along the way). You might even want to grab one of the accompanying bags to hold your clothes, your gear, and the intricate treasures you'll bring back from your adventure. The world is your oyster—although we're pretty sure it's a little bit bigger than that.

### SEVEN-DAY SOJOURN

#### **Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel, Peru:** A

Quechua legend tells the story of a young Incan princess who was destined to marry the sun god but fell in love with a victorious warrior. Upon learning of their love, the princess's father, the Incan king, banished the warrior to the battlefields of the Amazonian mountains, knowing it would result in his

Cafe Inkaterra at the  
Inkaterra Machu Picchu  
Pueblo Hotel in Peru.



Little Annie's Road, on the back of Aspen Mountain. LEFT: Bashford duffel, Tumi. Tumi, 973-376-8800



**WEEKEND GETAWAY**

**The Little Nell, Aspen:** As the catchphrase “Come for the winter and stay for the summer” suggests, the ski slopes aren't Aspen's only playground. In addition to hiking, biking, hot-air ballooning, and food and wine festivals, the city is a very, very good place to get on a horse. Its famous hotel **The Little Nell** has pushed this to the hilt with Cowboy 101 overnight horseback trips through White River National Forest to the Maroon Bells, a pair of 14,000-foot peaks in the Elk Mountains. You'll pass Maroon and Crater Lakes before setting camp along West Maroon Creek. A camp chef and a fishing guide will accompany you on the journey—along with pack mules to carry the wines hand-selected by The Little Nell's master sommelier from the hotel's 20,000-bottle cellar.

The adventure includes trout fishing in the creek, with the day's catch pan-fried over an open flame and served up with Wagyu rib-eye beef from Aspen's Emma Farms and an array of cheeses from the Avalanche Cheese Company in nearby Basalt (plus some strawberry shortcake, as every rugged cowboy deserves). The morning brings more fishing and a huevos rancheros breakfast, before you mosey back to The Little Nell for a hot shower and perhaps a massage. Shorter trips are also available for beginner riders. *Mid-May to early October; thelittlenell.com*

death. Crying inconsolably, the princess chased her beloved into the forest. Wherever one of her tears fell sprouted a bright magenta orchid (known locally as Waq'anki). Today the Waq'anki is the symbolic flower of Machu Picchu, but it's just one of the 372 orchid species on the grounds of Peru's **Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel**, which sits at 8,038 feet above sea level in the village of Aguas Calientes (now known as Machu Picchu Pueblo), a 20-minute drive down from the lost citadel of Machu Picchu. The hotel's grounds were formerly a tea and coffee plantation, until the Inkaterra Association, a nongovernmental organization dedicated to preserving the culture and biodiversity of the region, purchased the land in 1991. At the hotel, the association reintroduced yanay argos trees, which produce the

favorite fruit of Peru's national bird, the coral-red, orchid-like Andean cock-of-the-rock. The heliconia and orchid gardens surrounding the cottages are manicured versions of the forest that leads up to the surrounding peaks. The gardeners here are trained not just to care for the known species but also to discover new ones, and since most of the species living in the cloud forests are believed to be undiscovered, there is plenty of room for exploration. In 2000, some of the hotel's gardeners discovered a new variety of orchid with flowers resembling candy canes. *inkaterra.com*

**Anantara Sir Bani Yas Island Al Yamm Villa Resort, United Arab Emirates:**

**Anantara Sir Bani Yas Island Al Yamm Villa Resort** is both a mouthful and an eyeful. Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, founder and late ruler of the United Arab Emirates, introduced millions of trees and thousands of animals—including ostriches, giraffes, gazelles, cheetahs, and a herd of 400 Arabian oryx—to the 34-square-mile island, 150 miles from Abu Dhabi and a tantalizing five from shore. The resort's 30 luxury villas are set among mangrove forests and saltwater lagoons studded with white and pink flamingoes. Many of the villas have private plunge pools, and a few are quite sprawling. You're more likely, however, to be captivated by the sea (that's what *al yamm* means). Go for a swim in the Arabian Gulf, or arrange a fishing, kayaking, snorkeling, or scuba diving excursion through the water sports center. Yet what really sets Al Yamm apart is that you can also go on a safari, then tour the island's archeological excavation of a sixth-century monastery, shoot a quiver of arrows on the archery range, play some tennis, or ride a horse across the dunes. A kids' club, teen club, swimming pool, library, gym, and half a dozen dining options will enhance your stay—but be sure to leave time for a Sands of Time massage at the Anantara Spa. This signature treatment combines hot sand compresses, a floral foot ritual, and sports massage. *al-yamm.anantara.com*



Monogram Empreinte Keepall Bandouliere, Louis Vuitton. Louis Vuitton, 973-564-9788



LEFT: The pool on the *Orcaella*.



ABOVE: A daylong excursion on Pikaia Lodge's private yacht includes meals on board and land visits that bring you close to the wildlife of the Galapagos. LEFT: Tegra-Lite Max extended-trip packing case, Tumi, 973-376-8800



## TWO-WEEK TRAVELER

**Pikaia Lodge, Galapagos:** *Pikaia gracilens* may have been earth's first vertebrate, evolving some 500 million years ago. It's fitting, then, that the newest and most luxurious resort in the Galapagos—the 14-suite **Pikaia Lodge**, opening this October—is also the most eco-friendly in the famous archipelago, not just because it's carbon-neutral and built with Ecuadorian stone, teak, and bamboo, plus recyclable steel and glass (with sweeping views of the islands and the Pacific throughout), but because its developers rehabilitated a former cattle ranch by planting it with more than 12,000 endemic trees. Perched on a small plateau atop two craters of extinct volcanoes on Santa Cruz Island, the lodge even sits within its own secluded giant tortoise reserve. You'll tour the neighboring national park sites and beaches on Pikaia's private 100-foot yacht, seeing marine iguanas and blue-footed boobies and maybe snorkeling or kayaking. Scuba divers can combine a four-night stay with six more on a custom-designed live-aboard yacht, cruising to the northernmost islands of Wolf and Darwin for even more oceangoing experiences, with hammerhead and Galapagos sharks, whale sharks, sea lions, penguins, and shoals of fish so thick they could be living walls. [pikaialodgegalapagos.com](http://pikaialodgegalapagos.com)

**Orcaella, Myanmar:** If you're drawn to the water but would rather experience it from a 200-foot riverboat in Southeast Asia, consider the **Orcaella**, named after Myanmar's native dolphins. Belmond, the travel company that changed its name from Orient-Express earlier this year, has been sailing the Ayeyarwady River for 18 years. Its 25-cabin *Orcaella* (17 of those cabins are suites, and there's also a swimming pool, gym, and spa, of course) transforms the exotic voyage into an intimate affair for a maximum of 50 guests. Itineraries are available on the Chindwin and Ayeyarwady Rivers, traveling between Yangon and Bagan or between Bagan and Mandalay, through

hidden jungles and bustling markets, with stops at the area's gilded pagodas, temples, and monasteries. In the evenings, visiting musicians perform, as well as acrobats and dance troupes. The land tours are by bicycle or horse-drawn carriage. [voyagesinmyanmar.com](http://voyagesinmyanmar.com)

## MONTHLONG PASSPORT

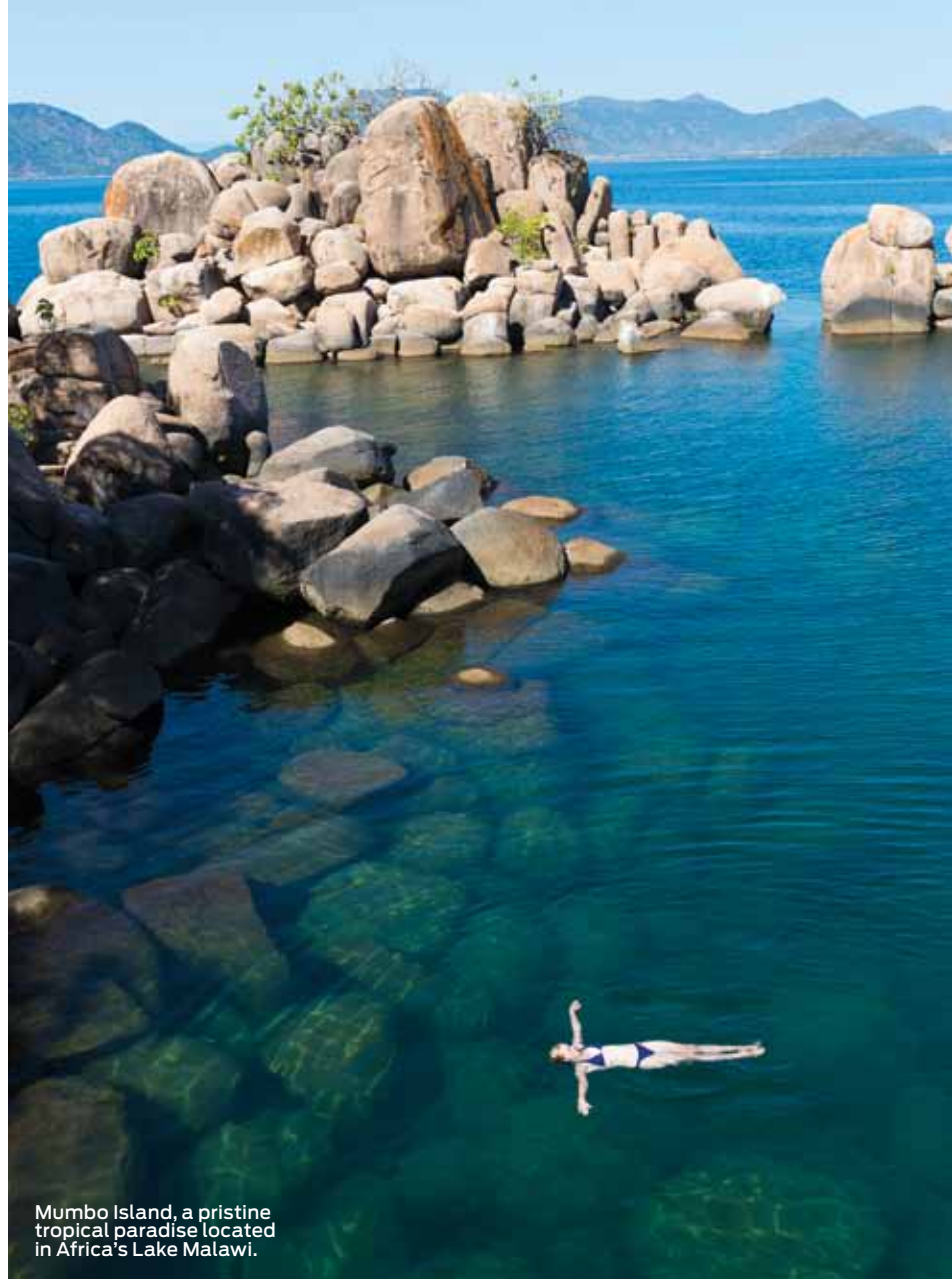
**Mumbo Island, Africa:** **Mumbo Island** sounds too impossible to exist: a pristine tropical island—offering six furnished bungalows and tents, with hammocks, thatched-reed decks, and hot-bucket showers—in a 2,300-foot-deep lake that's home to 1,000 species of fish. The island is located in Lake Malawi National Park, a Unesco World Heritage site since 1984 and the first freshwater marine reserve in the world, its cerulean waters home to more than 400 types of brilliantly colored cichlids (including damselfish, angelfish, and wrasses)—which are so perfectly adapted to their environment, they're comparable to Galapagos finches in the study of evolution. Within the lake—Africa's third-largest and second-deepest, covering one-fifth of the country of Malawi—is the half-mile-wide, 250-acre, electricity-free Mumbo Island. Guests are limited to just 14 at a time, and it's claimed that if all the tents and decks on the island were removed, within a year there wouldn't be a trace of habitation left. Aside from the few human visitors and staff, the only mammals on Mumbo are the friendly

speckle-throated otters (which sometimes approach swimmers to play), although baboons, vervet monkeys, hyraxes, and hippos are commonly sighted from shore. But what most attracts guests is the water. Snorkeling, diving, and kayaking to the lake's granitic islands are Mumbo's main activities, along with bird-watching (it's a nesting area for thousands of white-throated cormorants), hiking the island's five nature trails, and many forms of nonspecific lazing. [mumboisland.com](http://mumboisland.com)

**Maalifushi by COMO, Maldives:** Strung across 35,000 square miles of the Indian Ocean, the 1,192 islands of the Maldives have just 116 square miles of land. There's only one word in English that's derived from Dhivehi, the native language of the Maldives, and it's "atoll." So don't visit if you want to hike. Don't come if your thing is bustling cities (it's illegal here to build higher than the tallest palm). But if you like turquoise lagoons, pearlescent beaches, and coral gardens teeming with 1,900 species of fish, the Maldives may just be your dream destination. You'll swear the islands look just like a string of jewels during the 50-minute flight by seaplane from the capital, Malé, to **Maalifushi by COMO**, which opened this summer as one of only two resorts in the 66-island Thaa Atoll. You'll stay in one of 66 thatched-roof pine bungalows on the 20-acre island, or perhaps in one perched on stilts above the water. Naturally, nearly all of them come with private pools. The activities are decidedly water-based: fishing for wahoo or grouper, surfing, sailing, snorkeling, or scuba diving with the Maldives' estimated 10,000 manta rays. But don't overlook the COMO Shambhala spa, with its eight ocean-facing treatment rooms and open-air yoga pavilion. [comohotels.com/maalifushi](http://comohotels.com/maalifushi) ■

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Malle haute 110 monogram trunk, **Louis Vuitton**. *Louis Vuitton*, 973-564-9788



Mumbo Island, a pristine tropical paradise located in Africa's Lake Malawi.



A villa at Maalifushi by COMO in the Maldives.