

elite traveler

RESPONSIBLE LUXURY LIFESTYLE

WINTER 2023/24

The Suites Issue

SUPERLATIVE ABODES FROM
AN UNDERWATER LAIR TO A
PENTHOUSE WITH
A BASKETBALL COURT





156
Eriska Bridge and Loch

Contents

Inspire

80 Top Suites

It's back: Our definitive round-up of 100 of the very best hotel suites in the world, from New York City penthouses to remote Mongolian abodes.

135 Top Jets

Doug Gollan goes sky high as he investigates the charter companies that rule the private aviation roost. Expect all the big names, as well as a few newcomers.

Explore

148 Guide to Hong Kong

Though Hong Kong's viability as a vacation destination was temporarily eradicated, within a day or two, visitors will understand why this city's offering is world-beating. Join John O'Kelly as he tours the metropolis.

152 The Journey

Emma Al-Mousawi negotiates her dislike of the ocean on an adventure through Earth's last paradise: the Galapagos Islands.

156 Hot List

A tale of two climates: Kim Ayling battles the rain on a wildlife and whisky-filled road trip around Scotland, while Fiona Sims soaks up the sun during a culinary tour of Nevis.

164 Property

Bigger is certainly better in this issue's property listings, from a grand country manor just outside Edinburgh to a frankly staggering Upper East Side mansion.

168 Flight of Fancy

As always, we round the issue off with our Flight of Fancy — this time, it's to Costa Rica for wildlife-rich nighttime swim among the magical glow of bioluminescent plankton.

152

Pikaia Lodge

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Yannick Alleno on bringing Pavillon to London's Mayfair



This year, Michelin-decorated chef Yannick Alléno opened his very first London restaurant within the glamorous halls of Four Seasons Park Lane — and the city's discerning diners haven't stopped singing its praises since. Irenie Forshaw sat down with the chef in said restaurant to find out how many stars he's gunning for this time around (none, apparently...).

First drive: Rolls-Royce Spectre



Alex Martin was one of the first journalists to drive the Rolls-Royce Spectre on UK roads. Spectre, the world's first ultra-luxury EV, may prove to be a pivotal moment in the car industry's electrification. Scan the QR code to find out what he made of the \$420,000 super coupe.

Top 100 Suites

There are millions of hotel suites in the world. Choosing just 100 for our annual collection of the best of the best is no easy task, especially considering we've had over 900 submissions this year (you can see the full database at [elitetraveler.com](https://www.elitetraveler.com)), with each suite seemingly more magnificent than the last. So, the suites you'll find on the following pages are truly exceptional — from abodes submerged under the sea to bucolic manor houses. We've split the suites into handy categories so you can select based on your vacation of choice — we've also rounded up our legacy suites, the ones that have appeared in this Top 100 list every year for at least the past five years.







◀ Six Senses Douro Valley, Vineyard Garden Suite

DOURO VALLEY, PORTUGAL

Six Senses long ago determined wellness should be the keystone of the guest experience, so it created unique properties with stellar spas. At Six Senses Douro Valley, that meant a five-star eco-hotel in one of the world's famed wine regions. Built within a 19th-century wine estate overlooking the Douro River, the resort has a wine library and a notable spa where treatments take power from the benefits of the local olives and grapes. Find bliss in one of the three Vineyard Garden Suites — located in an exclusive wing of the hotel, the 1,022-sq-ft suite has one bedroom and multiple lounge areas inside, and a generous terrace with vineyard views and a hot tub outside.

From \$2,000 per night. Contact Richard Bowden, director of marketing and communications, richard.bowden@sixsenses.com, +351 254 660 600, sixsenses.com

▼ Bürgenstock Hotel and Alpine Spa, Lake View Royal Suite

BURGENSTOCK, SWITZERLAND

Words — nay, not even an entire choir singing alto voce from a stage at nearby Lucerne's Jean Nouvel-designed concert hall, renowned for its astonishing acoustics, can express the glorious wonders of Bürgenstock Hotel and Alpine Spa. Arriving by catamaran, chaperoned by swans, you'll ascend a mountain by vintage funicular to check into the resort complex, poised on a cliff overlooking the shimmering lake. Where Audrey Hepburn married, the village-like retreat keeps the past close to its heart with its reinterpretations of classic Swiss artistry and culture. At the same time, it oozes with *au courant* sleekness and design motifs that feel clean, allowing space for physical and emotional well-being. Look for multilevel Alpine Spa's infinity pool which (literally) stands out, jutting over the lake like a magic carpet ride. Take repose in the spacious 3,315-sq-ft Lake View Royal Suite, where you can play your personal Steinway piano, enjoy your personal sauna or bathe in your window-side Jacuzzi tub, in awe of the views.

From \$17,000 per night. Contact Sven Flory, vice president, sales and partnerships, reservations@burgenstockresort.com, +41 416 126 000, burgenstockresort.com



▲ The Retreat at Blue Lagoon, The Blue Lagoon Suite

GRINDAVÍK, ICELAND

For well-heeled solace seekers who've wisely chosen to hide away in The Retreat at Blue Lagoon's pièce de résistance, The Blue Lagoon Suite, blessed idleness will ensue. The suite, forged in the same luxurious, Nordic-meets-Italian contemporary style as the rest of the hotel, boasts relaxation-inducing powers well beyond the scientifically noted virtues of the resort's milky-blue geothermal lagoon. As an acme of perfection, with nest chairs and handcrafted elements, it enchants with panoramic windows on two levels meant to bring the ancient black lava fields, lagoons and splotches of spongy green moss within. With a separate exclusive entrance, the suite has two bedrooms with dreamy bathrooms, a living room, kitchen and dining room. A private lagoon lies through a door while, indoors, a personal spa fitted with a sauna, fireplace, steam room and treatment area offers The Retreat's signature spa products (silica mud, algae mask and more). Do make yourself leave the sanctum to dine at Michelin-starred Moss Restaurant, a temple of inventive Icelandic cuisine.

Price on request. Contact Bryndis Björnsdóttir, director of sales, retreat@blueagoon.is, +354 420 8800, blueagoon.com



▲ Twin Farms, Treehouse Suite

BARNARD, VERMONT, USA

Captivating art (by the likes of David Hockney and Jasper Johns) combine with storybook New England terrain in this former residence of beloved writers Sinclair Lewis and Dorothy Thompson. As a member of Relais & Châteaux, the inn's cuisine can be counted on to fulfill epicurean longings, while its activities (from hiking and tennis to pond swimming, kayaking and aviary tours) induce a healing state of mind. Adult-only, intimate and all inclusive, the resort has a small spa that serves as a centerpiece for the property, encouraging guests to pursue well-being and relaxation in nature. Forest-bathe as you slumber in one of the eight new Treehouse Suites. Design-centric interiors contrast with log-cabin-y facades slung between branches. They hover 14-20 ft above ground, encompassing 800 sq ft each. Bath lovers won't leave the tub, which feels like a nest among the leaves; and those with a penchant for fireplaces will snuggle before the drop-down floating fireplace with glee.

From \$3,500 per night. Contact Randi Bartles, reservations manager, randi@twinfarms.com, +1 800 894 6327, twinfarms.com