

Footprints

MINOR HOTEL GROUP / ISSUE 6 / 2014

CHINA
A LAND FULL OF
SURPRISES

SPA

ENHANCE YOUR
SUN TAN

TOP 5

DESTINATIONS ON THE RISE

AFRICA

BESPOKE BEACHES

MINOR HOTEL GROUP

HOTELS AND RESORTS,
WORLD CLASS SPAS AND
AWARD-WINNING
HOSPITALITY



PERAQUUM

Bold, imaginative and renowned for their trailblazing concepts such as the Maldivian underwater spa, a modern campsite dining experience or simply spectacular views of the Dubai city skyline from a boutique retreat set on a private polo estate.

PERAQUUM.COM

MINOR HOTEL GROUP PCL.

A HOTEL OWNER, OPERATOR AND INVESTOR WITH A PORTFOLIO OF MORE THAN 100 HOTELS AND RESORTS UNDER THE ANANTARA, AVANI, OAKS, PER AQUUM, ELEWANA COLLECTION, FOUR SEASONS, ST.REGIS, MARRIOTT, AND MINOR INTERNATIONAL BRANDS. TODAY MINOR HOTEL GROUP OPERATES IN 14 COUNTRIES, INCLUDING AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, CAMBODIA, CHINA, INDONESIA, KENYA, MALAYSIA, MALDIVES, MOZAMBIQUE, SRI LANKA, TANZANIA, THAILAND, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES AND VIETNAM.



ANANTARA HOTELS, RESORTS & SPAS

Luxurious and heartfelt hospitality. Embark on a journey rich with discovery at these unique destinations. Be it a quick city break or an extravagant once in a lifetime experience, Anantara offers indigenous and exotic retreats that draw on the locale's heritage.

ANANTARA.COM



AVANI HOTELS & RESORTS

Contemporary, relaxed and imaginative. Be it a leisurely family break or romantic escape, AVANI hotels and resorts provide the right space for relaxed and inspired comfort. Discerning service, relaxed dining and engaging recreation facilities for all guests are a given.

AVANIHOTELS.COM



OAKS HOTELS & RESORTS

A unique blend of city hotels in central locations and resort style accommodation in tourist destinations across Asia Pacific and the Middle East. For both short or longer stays, families and groups enjoy friendly service, superior accommodation and quality onsite leisure facilities.

OAKSHOTELSRESORTS.COM



ELEWANA COLLECTION

Each of the camps, lodges and hotels within the Elewana Collection offers unique accommodations of exceptional comfort. Their iconic locations provide any discerning world-traveller one of the most rewarding experiences they could wish for; close access to all the drama and spectacle of African wildlife.

ELEWANACOLLECTION.COM



MSPA

MSPa International currently operates 41 spas in a diverse collection of exclusive worldwide properties. With current expansion projects underway in China, the Middle East, Africa and the Maldives, MSPa International has risen to become a leading international spa operator.

MSPA-INTERNATIONAL.COM



ANANTARA VACATION CLUB

A unique luxury vacation ownership product offering the opportunity for 5 Star holidays in choice destinations. The vacation lifestyle is yours to explore with Anantara and affiliated destinations, from one exotic locale to the next, for your family today and generations to come.

ANANTARAVACATIONCLUB.COM



MJETS

Convenience, flexibility and a more personalised service with Thailand's premier private jet service. Providing a full range of services to executive customers and their jets, a 2,000 sq ft. executive lounge offers a relaxing environment, luxurious services including shower facility and business centre for passengers and pilots.

MJETS.COM



WELCOME

China boasts numerous attractions of historical, cultural and scenic sites. As Minor Hotel Group joins the country's rising popularity, with each new destination we are reminded that the essence of the Chinese culture still lies with its 3,500-year history. In this issue we introduce you to the lesser-known destinations in China of Emei, Sanya and Xishuangbanna. My advice to first-time travellers is hire a local guide for a deeper insight; the museums and temples are fascinating; go to tea houses rather than pubs to meet the locals; and the dim sum and dumplings are delicious. But don't just take my word for it - go and discover it for yourself.

With travel we not only marvel some of the most beautiful landscapes, we also journey to discover the unique flavours of each destination. The cooking schools, food offerings and wine tours at our hotels and resorts give you a real flavour and sense of place, but sometimes you want to go wherever your tastes may take you. With Dining by Design at each Anantara, this is exactly what happens when we give guests the opportunity to create their own restaurant in their chosen location and savour their own hand-picked menu. Read more about this on page 11 and let your imagination begin to wander.

We also look at other destinations on the rise in parts of the world where tourism hasn't yet reached the masses, and you will find other interesting articles about what really makes a great holiday. Creating new experiences and ensuring valued use of leisure time is at the very heart of our day-to-day dealings. Per AQUUM Dream Calendar events in Dubai and the Maldives offer a unique opportunity to sit for internationally acclaimed German artist and illustrator Jasmin Khezri as she creates your own avatar in the style of her illustrated IRMA character, a trendsetting icon with her own fashion, beauty and lifestyle blog. You can read more about this on page 10.

I wish you all a relaxing and inspiring stay with us, and hope to welcome you back soon to one of our hotels, resorts and spas.

Dillip Rajakarier
CEO Minor Hotel Group



At the AVANI Sepang GoldCoast Resort, General Manager Thomas Fehlbier enjoys the tropical setting with almost no seasonal difference. With 365 days of sunshine and a maximum of 32°C, Thomas highlights why he enjoys living in Sepang's tropical paradise.

What surprised you most about Malaysia?

I really enjoy seeing all the various ethnic backgrounds and beliefs celebrating the holidays together and joining in the specific festive traditions, dances, food specialties and blessings.

Selangor is a rising destination, why should travellers go there now?

With Kuala Lumpur on the doorstep and the area surrounded by many cultural and local excursions, mangroves tours and romantic sunset cruises, there is something to offer everyone. The AVANI Sepang GoldCoast Resort is one of the first resorts to open along 22 kilometres of untouched coastline.

Have you tried driving a formula 1 car around the race track next door?

I would love to and I hope to get a chance during the week prior to the next Malaysian F1 Grand Prix in March 2015 when many teams will be staying at our Resort.

Name the top three things every guest should experience in Selangor

Tropical fruit, batik and mangrove tours. You can relax by the beach beneath a coconut tree with a cold Dragon Fruit drink on the side and learn the highly-regarded local art of Batik. A boat tour of the mangroves comes with guaranteed monkey sightings, followed by a cycling trip to a fishing village for the freshest catch of the day.

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BOOK YOUR TRAVEL ITINERARY ON ANANTARA.COM

It's never been easier to book your Anantara journey of discovery. Anantara Hotels & Resorts recently launched its itinerary booking functionality on anantara.com. Whether you are booking a few days in Bangkok followed by a weekend getaway in a private villa in Phuket or booking your desert hideaway at Qasr al Sarab before you journey on to Eastern Mangroves, its all easily bookable with our new functionality.

GHA DISCOVERY

GHA Discovery is the Anantara, AVANI and Per AQUUM partnership with Global Hotel Alliance. With over 350 partner hotels globally, there's a hotel almost everywhere you need one offering great rewards and benefits. A world of possibilities is yours to explore across 22 member hotel chains in the alliance. Join GHA Discovery today by going to anantara.com/discovery and start seeing the rewards.



White sand beach in Sanya

CHINA

A LAND FULL OF SURPRISES

ALL JOURNEYS HAVE DISCOVERIES, MANY OF WHICH ARE UNEXPECTED WHEN WE SET OFF FROM HOME. CHINA IS NO EXCEPTION TO SURPRISES, SO FORGET WHAT YOU THINK YOU KNOW OF CHINA, AND DISCOVER A NEW SIDE TO THE BIG COUNTRY.

Tea, the Great Wall, the Ming Dynasty - these are just some of the things that spring to mind when you think about China. But to discover what this vast country, home to 1.4 billion people, is all about, you have to go there. Napoleon hit the nail on the head when he famously stated, "Let China sleep, for when she awakes, she will shake the world." Well, China has awoken, and emerged on the world stage with one enormous appetite.

While the loosening of border restrictions has resulted in a boom for tourism, the Chinese continue to embrace new frontiers on earth and in space, and in 2013 they officially overtook France as the world's biggest market for red wine with 1.86 billion bottles sold... roll over Napoleon!

Yet despite China's rapid emergence as a global superpower, the essence of the country still lies with its 3,500-year history and rich heritage, in which all Chinese take immense pride.

EMEI, SICHUAN

The majesty of nature and the value of heritage reach their peak in West China's most expansive province, Sichuan. Enclosed to the north, west and south by awe-inspiring mountain ranges, Sichuan has whispered its mystique to the outside world for centuries through the ancient art of shanshui hua (mountain water painting).

Perhaps the most painted landmark in Sichuan province is the towering, 3,099 metre Emei Shan, one of the Middle Kingdom's four famous Buddhist mountains. Here you'll find 2nd century Taoist temples, lush mountain scenery and a sunrise so splendid you're considered blessed to see it.



Leshan Buddha in Emei



SANYA, HAINAN

Located off China's South East coast, Hainan island is sometimes referred to as 'Coconut City' due to the abundance of coconut palms in its vicinity. A genuinely carefree ambience coupled with picture perfect beaches and an emerging surf scene is attracting a growing number of global travellers.

Local cuisine includes the celebrated 'Hainan Chicken Rice', locally referred to as Wenchang Chicken, a dish that has migrated famously to Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand. Free-range chickens from Wenchang, to the north about halfway between Sanya and Haikou, are fed coconut and peanut bran, the cooked in chicken stock and served with rice a dipping sauce based on chilli, pounded ginger and garlic.

XISHUANGBANNA, YUNNAN

With its location in southern Yunnan province, Xishuangbanna finds itself both geographically and culturally on the northern rim of South East Asia. Rolling hills carpeted in tropical rainforests, great Dai cuisine and a laid back feel make this one of the most exciting regions of Yunnan province.

One of the very few tropical zones in China, Xishuangbanna is home to over 5,000 species of trees, several hundred kinds of medicinal and oil-bearing plants, and hundreds of types of flowers, many of which are found nowhere else in China. The Dai people, closely related to the Thai, Lao and Shan of Southeast Asia, occupy the plains and valleys, and constitute over one-third of the local population. The cities have modernised, but the new buildings often include Dai architectural motifs, giving even urban areas an ethnic look that makes any Xishuangbanna visit a true delight.



Botanical Gardens in Xishuangbanna

TRAVEL GUIDE

WHEN TO GO

Sichuan's winter season is at its coldest from December to February when temperatures drop to around 3 °C before rising to around 29 °C from June to August. Hainan's peak season is from November to early March when temperatures average 21°C. Yunnan has a climate as diverse as its terrain but in Xishuangbanna temperatures will rise to 33 °C from June to August and drop to around 4 °C in December.

WHERE TO STAY

Combine the discovery of the local culture and area attractions with luxury accommodation at three Anantara resorts in China, located at the foot of Emei Shan mountain in Sichuan province, on the south tip of Hainan province in Sanya and in the hills of Xishuangbanna, South Yunnan.



EXCURSIONS

Languages beyond Chinese are a challenge when communicating with the locals but tour operators and the resorts can assist with hiring informative guides to ensure each region can be explored to its fullest potential.

TRANSFERS

Airport transfer services to each of the three Anantara resorts in China are available to and from the nearest international airports of Chengdu, Sanya and Jinghong .

CURRENCY

The renminbi, RMB is the official currency of China. The yuan is the basic unit of the renminbi, but is also used as a synonym of the currency. At the time of print, CNY 1 = USD 0.17

LOCAL LAWS, ETIQUETTE

Always present things to people with both hands, showing that what you are offering is the full extent of yourself. When meeting a Chinese family always greet the eldest first as a mark of respect. If someone gives you a gift, it is considered more polite to put it aside to open later in private.





COOLA

SPA TREATMENTS THAT ENHANCE YOUR SUN TAN

OFFERING THE ULTIMATE PACKAGE OF SUN PREPARATION TO LEAVE THE SKIN SOFT AND LOOKING SEDUCTIVELY BRONZED. IT'S THE PERFECT WAY TO START AND END EACH DAY IN PARADISE.

Waking up to an ocean view. Lounging through lazy pool days that ease into sundowner cocktails and beachfront dining under the stars. The temptations of an exotic holiday tend to have an indulgent agenda, yet nothing beats going home to show off a beautiful bronzed tan.

For holidaymakers that place a high importance on skincare, huge advancements in sunscreen products blend SPF protection with the natural benefits of organic ingredients and scientific anti-ageing formulas. Taking this innovative spa philosophy to a whole new level, the Maldivian destinations of Anantara Veli Resort & Spa, Anantara Dhigu Resort & Spa and their sister resort Naladhu have recently launched a unique offering of expert treatment programmes that incorporate the award-winning organic COOLA sun care facial and body product collection. The combination delivers a boutique sun care experience that feels more like heavenly spa pampering.



Not sure what beautiful skin type you are? All products and treatment programmes are personally prescribed.

Feeling too lazy to reapply your sunscreen? Let an expert therapist top up applications for you at Anantara's COOLA Sun Spa Cabana, conveniently located by the pool and beach.

Prefer to top up yourself? Personally prescribed products from the COOLA sun care range are also available for purchase.

Keen to try the ultimate in specialist sun care? While staying with Anantara and Naladhu in the Maldives, enquire about the COOLA Sun Care Treatment Programmes. Hideaway in a luxurious treatment suite at Anantara Spa or in your private villa and treat yourself to professional pre-sun preparation, all day protection and soothing after care treatment programmes.



COOLA's Organic Sun Care Collection of high performance facial and body products protect and nourish, moisturise and soothe. Luxurious formulations are infused with 70 - 97% organic certified ingredients and all products are Paba, Paraben, Petroleum and Phthalate free, and are not tested on animals. Vitamins and age-defying antioxidants are combined with natural phyto-protectors, such as plankton, red algae and red raspberry seed oil, which have innate sun protection qualities to boost SPF value naturally.



Oaks Grand Gladstone

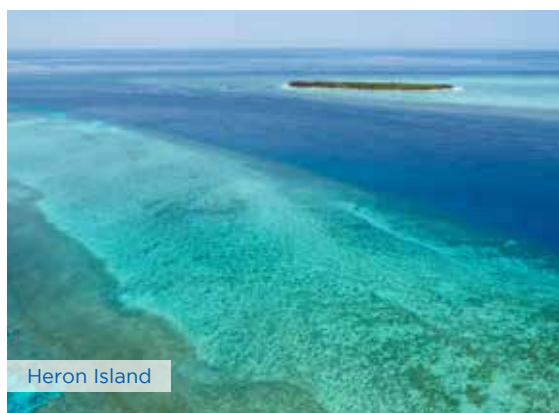
GLADSTONE'S CHARM

A GATEWAY TO THE GREAT BARRIER REEF

THE CLOSE PROXIMITY TO TWO OF THE SOUTHERN GREAT BARRIER REEF'S MOST IDYLIC ISLAND HOT SPOTS, MAKES THE PERFECT BASE FOR A GREAT AUSSIE GETAWAY.

The Great Barrier Reef has long topped the 'to-do' lists of travellers from all corners of the globe, united in a shared vision of experiencing one of the seven wonders of the natural world. Melding an underwater world of brightly coloured corals and magnificent marine life with an archipelago of tropical islands, coral cays and sun-kissed beaches stretched across thousands of kilometres, this national treasure has put Queensland on the map.

Frequented by families of all ages, the natural coral cay of Heron Island presents a stunning combination of crystal waters, golden sands, fascinating sea creatures and brilliant coral reef, shaded by local pandanus palms. Accessible from Gladstone by boat, helicopter or seaplane and just 89 kilometres off the mainland, this island oasis is renowned for its impeccable diving, snorkeling and swimming settings, as well as being a breeding bird sanctuary and nesting location for turtles. From November through to March, visitors can experience the turtle season in full swing as nesting mothers lay their eggs in the sand, then wait for thousands of hatchlings to emerge from the dunes and make their way to the Coral Sea.



Heron Island



Turtles on Wilson Island

An exhilarating 45-minute speedboat ride from Heron Island, adventurers will find themselves 'shipwrecked in style' on neighbouring Wilson Island. Fringed by lagoon-like waters in iridescent blues and greens, this tiny haven caters for groups only and no more than 12 guests at a time, ensuring an unforgettable experience that is uniquely personal and private.

Steeped in history, the Gladstone Region not only lives up to its reputation as the entrance to the Southern Great Barrier Reef, but also the 'engine room of industry', boasting one of Australia's largest and busiest multi-commodity ports, the Port of Gladstone. Oaks Grand Gladstone is the newest hotel to hit the town, where holidaymakers and business travellers alike will be met by a winning combination of modern, apartment-style accommodation, premier leisure facilities and unrivalled onsite dining to suit a myriad tastes and moods.

Inspired by the waves of settlement, the hotel pays homage to the region's fascinating heritage with a

40-metre mural extending around the property, intricately plotting and chronicling momentous points and people in time. From the traditional landowners of Gladstone to the discovery and establishment of the region, the role it played as a defense line during WWII, its first railway and the beginning of the industrial era, Oaks Grand Gladstone provides guests with the chance to become acquainted with the region's past and present.

Gladstone comes alive year round with celebrations etched into the annual events calendar, including the spectacular, week-long Harbour Festival in April and the Gladstone Multicultural Festival in July and August. For visitors looking to further experience the sights and sounds on offer, the Gladstone region also promises a smorgasbord of iconic attractions, heritage listed buildings and picturesque landscapes to enjoy; like the Gladstone Maritime Museum, Tondoon Botanic Gardens, Lake Awoonga or Tannum Sands - 'Queensland's friendliest beach'.

NEW DESTINATIONS ON THE RISE

WHERE ARE THE TRAVELLERS-IN-THE-KNOW GOING TO IN 2014 AND 2015? WE PREDICT THE TOP 5 HOTTEST NEW TRAVEL DESTINATIONS TO START LOOKING INTO.



DOHA'S EVOLVING SKYLINE

There is an exhilarating buzz that stays with you forever when you are among the first to discover a wonderful part of the world, be it a country, a hard-to-reach region, or a best-kept-secret neighbourhood of a city before mainstream tour operators and developers find it.

Popular travel magazines predicted Burma would be a top destination in 2013 and, indeed, its otherworldly landscapes and breathtaking sights proved so popular that finding a room there today requires months of advance booking. Vietnam and Cambodia have also experienced increasing popularity with travellers wanting to explore these beautiful destinations while they are still relatively quiet. So where's next to explore? Here are the hot destinations on the Minor Hotel Group's radar - in no particular order - that we think will be big news for travellers in the next two years.

1

MOZAMBIQUE

Along Mozambique's north eastern coastline, Pemba is home to the world's third largest port and boasts a rich fishing and trading heritage. This beautiful town is renowned

for its delightful Portuguese influences, and serves as a gateway to the untouched wilderness of the Niassa Wildlife Reserve and jewel-like Quirimbas Archipelago, offering the best of both worlds from a charming setting.

Just a short distance from Pemba you can live out your castaway fantasy of blissful barefoot seclusion. Far removed from modern distraction, only one kilometre long and 500 metres wide, the picture perfect private island of Medjumbe in the Quirimbas Archipelago dazzles with a lush tropical interior, countless coves and pure white powdery sands. Swim in crystal clear waters and escape into a surreal underwater world, discovering coral reefs that are some of Mozambique's best kept natural secrets.





2

DOHA, QATAR

Set out on thrilling dune safaris and discover Qatar's finest natural inland treasure, the Khor Al Adaid, where the sea appears like a mirage. Delve into dynamic Doha, where ancient Islamic architecture stands in elegant contrast to the Souk Waqif's entrancing labyrinth of Arabian perfume, carpet, gold and spice traders. Just moments from the intriguing capital, a stunning island offers refreshing escapes for beach and water sport enthusiasts.

3

SEYCHELLES

A breathtaking archipelago of 115 islands scattered across the azure Indian Ocean, dreams of beach tranquillity don't get much more enticing than the Seychelles, off the coast of southeast Africa. Picture towering coconut palms swaying over soft powdery shores. Find water sports to suit every kind of interest, from sailing and island hopping to a premier diving and fishing destination. A melting pot of African, European and Asian cultures is evident in the country's art, music, dance, cuisine and architecture, and two UNESCO World Heritage Sites include the world's largest raised coral atoll.



4

SEPANG, MALAYSIA

Formula 1 and the annual Malaysian Grand Prix bring glamour and adrenalin to this small southern town every March, and Kuala Lumpur's sightseeing highlights are just an hour away. Surrounded by the sheltered waters of the Malacca Straits along Malaysia's south western coast, between the beach and resort you can visit a forested orang-utan reserve and rescued wild Asian elephants. Lazy days on Sepang's golden beaches are balanced by excursions to coffee and rubber plantations, traditional fishing villages, exquisite temples and vibrant markets.



5

SOUTHERN COAST SRI LANKA

Vivid topography of immaculate tea plantations, virgin rainforest, impressive waterfalls and wild mangroves is matched by world famous beaches that are met by the rolling Indian Ocean, providing a surfer's paradise. Explore traditional villages surrounded by jungle landscape, beautiful monuments to diverse religions, colonial charms such as the Dutch fortification of Galle and a spice plantation country estate, as well as elephant and turtle sanctuaries.



INSPIRING ART WHAT'S YOUR AVATAR?

GLAMOROUS IRMA GRACES HIGH-FASHION MAGAZINES AROUND THE WORLD, HAS HER OWN MUST-FOLLOW ONLINE FASHION, BEAUTY AND LIFESTYLE BLOG AND GRACES THIS YEAR'S DREAM CALENDAR AT PER AQUUM TO CREATE YOUR OWN PERSONALISED AVATAR.



A JET-SETTING STYLE ICON

IRMA personifies modern life lived with a sense of creative individuality and personal style. IRMA is a globetrotting trend spotter; experiencing life through art exhibitions and fashion shows; through all that makes life interesting. IRMA is a fashion consultant in Asia, has her own magazine column in Europe, and models for advertisements the world over. She is a confident 'IT' girl and an independent woman who brings beauty to the real world as she explores the latest trends through her illustrated life.

For IRMA, life is art. Art is style. Per AQUUM is inviting guests to become the inspiration for a unique private sitting with IRMA's award-winning creator. As part of Dream Calendar 2014, Jasmin Khezri will be in residence at Desert Palm in Dubai, from 12th - 17th April 2014, offering guests the opportunity to have their own avatar in the style of iconic illustrated lifestyle guru IRMA. Her by-appointment-only Per AQUUM avatar sessions offer guests a rare and exclusive opportunity to become an artist's muse.

THE REAL IRMA

IRMA is the alter-ego of internationally acclaimed Iranian-German graphic designer, artist and illustrator, Jasmin Khezri. A renowned designer and fashion creative. Jasmin has studied in New York, Paris and Los Angeles. Her innovative designs in the magazine industry saw her become an art director in the 1990s, when she created IRMA. Originally an illustrated model in a magazine, IRMA has taken on a life of her own. Jasmin is also an international traveler, journalist and trend scout, exhibiting her illustrations from the Big Apple to Tokyo.



IRMA-ESQUE AVATARS

Per AQUUM guests who reserve a sitting with Jasmin will see their individual look and personality created in the inimitable style of IRMA. With her big eyes and model-good looks, IRMA portraits have a natural flair and sense of charm. Creatives who have been given the IRMA avatar style include London-based magazine fashion director Daniela Agnelli who has worked for Marie Claire and Harper's Bazaar, as well as Mila Jouravleva, a former model and filmmaker, turned New York nutritionist.

DREAM CALENDAR AT PER AQUUM

After visiting Desert Palm in April, IRMA will be gracing the Maldives with her presence from the 18th to 28th October 2014 when Jasmin will be offering guests at Huvafen Fushi and NIYAMA exclusive avatar style sessions. Inspired by the luxurious Per AQUUM lifestyle, IRMA's visits will be captured on four postcodes for each location. Set against iconic backdrops, guests can guess where exactly IRMA is in each illustration. IRMA's Guide for Per AQUUM reveals her top five must-dos at each location, for the ultimate on-trend travel experience for guests.

IMAGINATIVE DINING WHEREVER YOUR TASTES MAY TAKE YOU

IMAGINE HOW AND WHERE YOU WOULD CREATE YOUR OWN RESTAURANT, IN YOUR CHOSEN DESTINATION, SERVING THE MEAL YOU DESIRE, JUST FOR ONE NIGHT UNDER A SKY OF A THOUSAND STARS. WHERE WOULD THAT BE?

From celebrating a special birthday and seasonal festivities, to bidding goodbye or a welcome home to friends who've been away, it seems that there's always a good time of year to indulge in an extraordinary affair with dining. Bespoke culinary concepts are reaching a pinnacle of popularity and diners are eager to see who can pull out the stops for the most imaginative gastronomy.

Located in some of the world's most exotic destinations across Asia, the Middle East, Maldives and Africa, Anantara Hotels, Resorts & Spas tempts couples with its signature Dining by Design concept. A collection of fine dining menus showcase gourmet international cuisines and exotic local flavours, expertly prepared by a personal chef, who will also be delighted to craft a menu to suit individual whims and desires. The focus on choice continues with a range of idyllic settings that capitalise on the distinctive landscapes and views of each unique locale.

Furthering the romantic possibilities, Dining by Design ties in with Anantara's Inspired Celebrations romance concept, which invites couples to create their own love story. From a surprise proposal and fairytale wedding, to a once in a lifetime honeymoon and special anniversaries, each chapter offers the perfect opportunity to indulge and Dine by Design.



**PROPOSE
IN THE JUNGLE
ANANTARA GOLDEN TRIANGLE
ELEPHANT CAMP & RESORT – THAILAND**

Dine beside a scenic rice paddy, on a hilltop overlooking three countries and the Mekong River, or at the jungle elephant camp, and at a time of your choosing a baby elephant will present a bouquet of flowers with the ring safely hidden inside.

**AN OCEANIC WORLD
OF YOUR OWN
ANANTARA KHAVAH VILLAS
– MALDIVES**

Set sail on the turquoise Indian Ocean aboard the Ocean Whisperer sailing yacht of gleaming wood and brisk white sails. Celebrate one of the world's most dramatic sunsets with a personalised cocktail, while your private on-board chef conjures a sumptuous floating feast.

**FEAST IN
THE WORLD'S LARGEST DESERT
ANANTARA QASR AL SARAB
DESERT RESORT – ABU DHABI**

Take a camel across the dunes, pause for sunset cocktails, and continue on to a torch-lit traditional Hazeerah tent. Savour an authentic Bedouin feast and gather around a bonfire to the sounds of a traditional oud player and relax with flavoured shisha pipes under a blanket of stars.

SAFARI



BESPOKE AFRICAN BEACHES

SOME DESTINATIONS
ARE TIMELESS;
OTHERS ARE OFTEN
WELL-KEPT SECRETS

IN EAST AFRICA ADVENTURE TRAVELLERS AND ROMANTICS AT HEART ALIKE ARE JUST AS LIKELY TO BE ENCHANTED BY THE CONTINENT'S SECLUDED BEACH DESTINATIONS AS THEY ARE IN AWE OF THE HEARTLAND'S NATURAL WILDLIFE EXTRAVAGANZA.

Africa has long been regarded as the ultimate destination that offers some of the most rewarding experiences that any discerning traveller could wish for. Combining the two experiences of a wildlife safari with a boutique beach retreat makes for the ultimate African journey.

ZANZIBAR

The very mention of the beautiful and historic spice island of Zanzibar, a semi-autonomous archipelago off Tanzania's Indian Ocean coast, is enough to conjure up a multitude of mental images that are both exotic and striking. It is this emotional reaction that has caused Zanzibar to become one of the world's most sought after holiday destinations.

Kilindi Zanzibar is located on the north-west coast of Zanzibar, lying adjacent to the clear turquoise waters of the sparkling ocean. A rarity in the world of luxury boutique hotels, this extraordinary and mesmerising haven was originally designed for Benny Andersson, one of the members of 1980's pop sensation ABBA.

Fifteen guest rooms are nestled amongst a 200,000 square metre tropical garden, each with its own private plunge pool and sun terrace. The concept behind the design is that of Scandinavian minimalism mixed with the dramatic overtones evident in Middle Eastern architecture.

The interior designs of the rooms and those of the public areas reflect the island's heritage and blend seamlessly with the carefully selected modern accents, resulting in a perfect balance between the historic and the contemporary. To further enhance the experience, all guest rooms are indulged



by a discreet yet attentive personal butler 24 hours a day.

KENYA

South of Mombasa on Kenya's coast, one of the world's most beautiful beaches is graced by AfroChic Diani Beach. Situated on the white sands, AfroChic dazzles with views of exotic, ancient dhows in full sail. This exclusively intimate hotel is singularly personable and in a class of its own.

From the individually designed guest rooms to the unique interiors that permeate throughout the hotel, AfroChic Diani Beach plays the part of the quintessential African boutique hotel superbly and magnificently. With only ten rooms, the unique and eclectic style makes for a refreshing change.

With an array of dining options from a romantic candlelit table for two on the white sandy beach with the promise of spectacular sea views, to the privacy and comfort of the guest rooms, AfroChic Diani Beach's culinary offerings exude intimate romance. Here there are no meal times, no rules.

The graceful curve of the Diani shoreline tempts all to walk in the warm shallows along the edge of the African continent and for those who prefer greener pastures an eighteen-hole championship golf course is moments away. Adventure seekers can revel in the thrill of kite and windsurfing, body boards, sea kayaking, snorkelling and scuba diving, while excursions to Mombasa's lively clubs and bars promise the best of African nightlife.

ELEWANACOLLECTION.COM





A LIFETIME OF DREAM VACATIONS

WOULDN'T IT BE NICE TO ESCAPE TO YOUR OWN PIECE OF PARADISE?

VACATION CLUBS OFFER THE OPPORTUNITY TO BECOME A PART-OWNER OF A RESORT WITH ACCESS TO BENEFITS SUCH AS SCUBA DIVING, HORSE RIDING AND WINE TASTINGS. THE OPTION TO RETURN YEARLY COMES WITH A CERTAIN SENSE OF SECURITY; YOUR NEXT VACATION IS ALWAYS JUST AROUND THE CORNER.



Anantara Vacation Club is a unique luxury vacation ownership product offering you the opportunity to indulge in five star holidays in choice destinations. Through our innovative and flexible Club structure, you can escape from the everyday and enjoy holidays in a multitude of lavish accommodations and exotic resort locations.

Shared Ownership is known by many names, including fractional ownership, timesharing and residence clubs. For Anantara, it means the ability to purchase a flexible period of time that allows you to holiday in some of the most luxurious places, at a one-time fixed price. Rath-



er than having to rent your future holidays, by using your Club Points, you can stay in high quality resorts and hotels, providing you with substantial savings by locking in your future holiday accommodation costs at today's values.

How do Club Points translate into valuable experiences?

The number of Club Points you purchase determines the length of stay, size of accommodation and time of year you can use your Points Ownership. There are numerous additional benefits which make your holidays easier to plan and more enjoyable, as well as exclusive discounts on goods and services. In short your Club Points allow you to purchase luxury holiday accommodation in some of the world's most sought-after destinations, accompanied by a wealth of privileges, and extending for generations to come.

How long does a Club Points Ownership last?

The term of an Anantara Vacation Club Ownership is until 31st January 2040. The Club Ownership can be used by anyone whom you designate, sell or rent to, or who receives Ownership as inheritance.



"When I joined Anantara Vacation Club in February 2012, no-one was more surprised than me! I'd gone to the preview presentation as a passive listener, thinking there would be a catch, but instead I found the attractions irresistible and signed up as a Jade Owner without hesitation, and upgraded to the next ownership level the following year for even greater flexibility and choice."

What I love most about being an Owner is the flexibility to use my points at a growing number of resorts and to treat friends and family to amazing vacations. To date I've visited five Club Resorts and Club Escapes Resorts and I'm planning to visit Anantara Kihavah Villas in the Maldives to experience the underwater restaurant and wine cellar, and Anantara Dubai The Palm Resort & Spa as I've never been to the Middle East."

ADRIAN YANG, HONG KONG

TRAVEL TIPS

TURNING EXPECTATIONS INTO MEMORIES OF QUALITY SERVICE AND UNIQUE EXPERIENCES. OUR MANAGEMENT TEAM AT EACH OF THE LOCATIONS IS READY TO ASSIST IN ANY WAY TO MAKE YOUR STAY WITH US AS MEMORABLE AS POSSIBLE. PLEASE CONTACT THE LOCAL CONCIERGE FOR THE LATEST EVENTS AND OFFERS.



SHORT BREAKS SPECIAL

Anantara's entire collection of luxury hideaways are now even more tempting with a Short Breaks offer available worldwide from now until the end of December 2014. Simply choose your dream destination where cultural exploration awaits over a minimum two-night stay and receive daily breakfast for two, an upgrade to the next room category and late check-out of 4:00 pm (subject to availability), one signature cocktail or mocktail a person, and 20 percent off dining and 90-minute oil massages throughout the stay.

KING'S CUP ELEPHANT POLO IN THAILAND

The highly popular King's Cup Elephant Polo Tournament will move this year from the Royal seaside town of Hua Hin to the Siam Polo Park at VR Sports Club in Bangkok, held from August 28th - 31st.

The four day festival will have something for everyone including an impressive opening parade, Children's Day, Ladies Day and wide a range of fun elephant related activities for the whole family. Last year's event had 16 teams encompassing over 50 players, including Thai supermodels, professional horse polo players, the New Zealand All-Blacks rugby team and Thailand's famous transgender cabaret team Miss Tiffany's. The event has raised over USD 750,000 donated to projects that better the lives of Thailand's wild and domesticated elephant population.

A total of 50 street elephants will take part in this year's tournament, during which they are well fed, provided with a native forest environment, and receive essential vitamin supplements, full veterinary checks and care for the duration of the event.

For more information on the 13th Annual King's Cup Elephant Polo Tournament, please visit anantaraelephantpolo.com



ULUWATU SURF ESCAPE

Experience Bali's surfing heartland with Anantara Uluwatu Resort & Spa, overlooking the stunning Impossible Beach, where the waves are great, fast, powerful and challenge every surfer to fine tune skills. Escape with a surfing adventures and ride the waves of your life at Bali's top surfing spots, Padang-Padang Beach, Bingin Beach, and Uluwatu Beach and join a surfing scene from around the world.

HEAD TO THE EMEI SHAN MOUNTAIN

Conquer one of China's four sacred Buddhist mountains and a UNESCO World Heritage site since 1996. A place of outstanding natural beauty characterised by pine forests and rugged peaks rising through the mists, pilgrims climb the mountain to visit no fewer than 76 Buddhist monasteries, most dating from the Ming and Qing Periods (1368-1911), and to marvel at the 'sea of clouds' – best seen at sunrise – that surrounds the summit. Afterwards, relax in the lap of luxury at Anantara Emei Resort and Spa



LIFE NEXT TO THE FAST LANE

Next door to the official F1 Malaysia racing track, AVANI Sepang Goldcoast Resort has an alluring tropical location along Sepang's 22 kilometre shore. Featuring both a mainland beachfront setting and a palm structure that stretches out into the Malacca Straits, you can look forward to experiencing two views of paradise.

A golden beach, lush gardens and the shallow warm waters of Malaysia's south western coastline promise plenty of space and freedom. While easy access to Kuala Lumpur's city attractions means that you can also enjoy the best of both worlds.



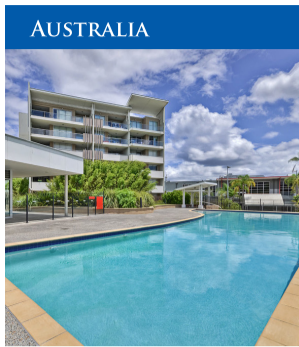
EXPLORE THAILAND'S WHITE-SAND SHORES

The jagged shape of Phuket island accounts for some of Southeast Asia's most beautiful beaches, tucked into coves and natural recesses. Layan Beach in front of the Anantara Phuket Layan Resort & Spa is nestled in a shallow bay away from beach-hugging crowds. The surrounding Andaman Sea is breathtaking and invites for hours of kayaking, canoeing, and surfing free of charge to Anantara guests. The secluded resort is just a 10-minute drive from the busy Laguna area's shops and restaurants and a 35-minute drive from the nightlife on Patong beach.

CONCIERGE

WHERE IS YOUR NEXT DESTINATION?

MINOR HOTEL GROUP IS OPENING NEW HORIZONS IN EXCITING AND DEVELOPING DESTINATIONS IN 2014. HERE IS A SNEAK PREVIEW OF TRAVEL EXPERIENCES TO START PLANNING.



AUSTRALIA

1 | Oaks Mews *Opening mid 2014*

In the popular inner-city suburb of Bowen Hills, Brisbane, a combination of one and two bedroom apartments enjoy expansive balconies that overlook manicured gardens. Guests of Oaks Mews will enjoy an array of premier leisure facilities, including a sauna, superbly equipped gymnasium overlooking a stunning swimming pool, and an outdoor entertaining area complete with barbeque facilities.

OAKSHOTELSRESORTS.COM

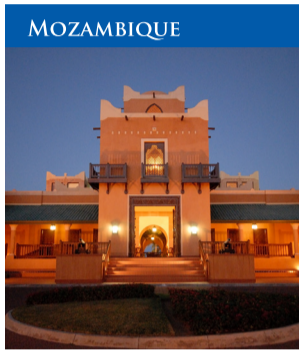


MOZAMBIQUE

2 | Anantara Medjumbe Island Resort & Spa *Opening mid 2014*

Idyllically located on a tiny private island in the jewel-like Quirimbas Archipelago, Anantara Medjumbe Island Resort & Spa offers a paradise escape surrounded by dazzling coral reefs. One of Mozambique's best kept natural secrets, barefoot luxury and secluded privacy are matched by impeccable hospitality.

ANANTARA.COM

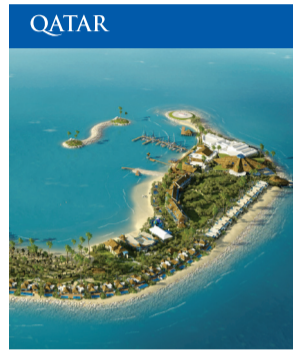


MOZAMBIQUE

3 | AVANI Pemba Beach Hotel & Spa *Opening mid 2014*

A gateway to the pristine Quirimbas Archipelago, AVANI Pemba Beach Hotel & Spa blends African and Arabian influences to make a striking architectural statement in the ancient port town of Pemba. Offering entrancing views across the Indian Ocean, this hotel is a wonderful base for business and leisure travellers alike to explore the charming old coastal port town of Pemba.

AVANIHOTELS.COM

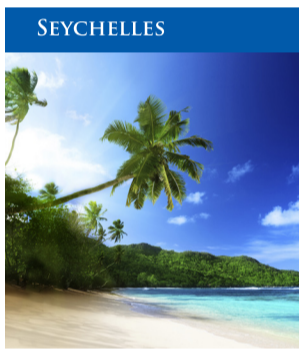


QATAR

4 | Anantara Doha Island Resort & Spa *Opening mid 2014*

Located just 11 km from Doha and 20 minutes by boat from Doha International Airport on an exclusive 13 hectare island with its own marina and reefs, the resort offers 141 rooms, suites, pool villas and over water villas. Entertainment options include four swimming pools, an Anantara spa and fitness centre, water sports, a nine hole putting golf course, cinema, children's club and dedicated family beach.

ANANTARA.COM



SEYCHELLES

5 | AVANI Seychelles Barbarons Resort & Spa *Opening late 2014*

Surrounded by 450 metres of perfect white sand beaches, themselves surrounded by the stunning blue Indian Ocean and breathtaking mountainous scenery, the resort enjoys a prime location near Plaisance in Plaine Magnien in the south east corner of Mauritius. 160 luxurious rooms, suites and pool villas are set amidst ecological attractions of natural sand dunes and a marine park.

AVANIHOTELS.COM

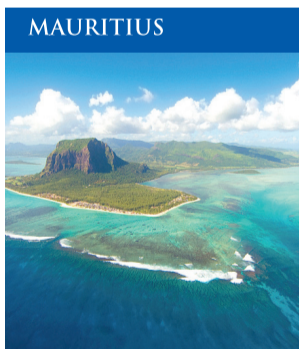


THAILAND

6 | AVANI Atrium Bangkok *Opening late 2014*

In central Bangkok on New Petchuburi Road, just minutes by subway from Bangkok's business district and shopping centres, AVANI Atrium revels in the dynamic personality of Bangkok. This 568 room hotel is ideally situated for expressway access to and from both Suvarnabhumi and Don Muang airports. Prime shopping and business districts, including Sukhumvit, Silom and Siam Square, are within easy distance from the hotel by subway.

AVANIHOTELS.COM

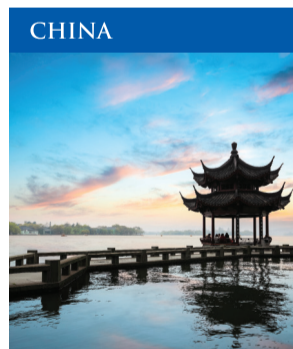


MAURITIUS

7 | Anantara Le Chaland Resort *Opening late 2014*

Surrounded by 450 metres of perfect white sand beaches, themselves surrounded by the stunning blue Indian Ocean and breathtaking mountainous scenery, the resort enjoys a prime location near Plaisance in Plaine Magnien in the south east corner of Mauritius. 160 luxurious rooms, suites and pool villas are set amidst ecological attractions of natural sand dunes and a marine park.

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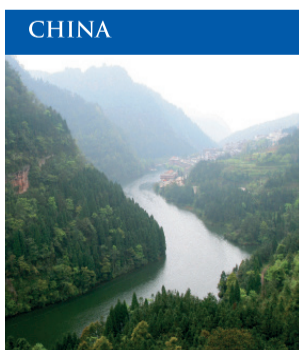


CHINA

8 | Anantara Qiandao Lake Resort & Spa *Opening early 2015*

Verdant mountains, crystal clear waters, striking caves and remarkable stones surround Qiandao Lake Town, comprised of a 1,078 jade-like islands and waterscapes. Perched on a hillside the 120 beautifully appointed rooms and villas offer spectacular views of Qiandao Lake below, alluring mountain peaks in the distance and a myriad scenic and natural charms on the doorstep.

ANANTARA.COM



CHINA

9 | Anantara Wulong Resort & Spa *Opening late 2015*

At the focal point of the unique Yangtze Three Gorges Dam, two hours from Chongqing International Airport, the area attracts visitors from all over the world for its cultural heritage. With 210 rooms and suites the resort is ideally located to explore the stunning scenery. Three of the most prominent attractions are Furong Cave, the Three Natural Bridges, and the Houping Tiankengs.

ANANTARA.COM



CENTRAL RESERVATIONS OFFICE

With the rapid expansion of Anantara Hotels & Resorts we are pleased to announce the opening of a Central Reservations Office in Thailand. With one number you can now book any Anantara hotel or resort. The Central Reservations Office operates from 8:00 am - 10:00 pm (Bangkok Time) seven days a week for reservations in English, Mandarin and Thai.

Reserve your next indigenous discovery with one of our experienced reservations agents. Call on +66 (0) 2365 9110