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How to spend it



IN EL BULLIANT FORM
WHAT FERRAN ADRIA DID NEXT

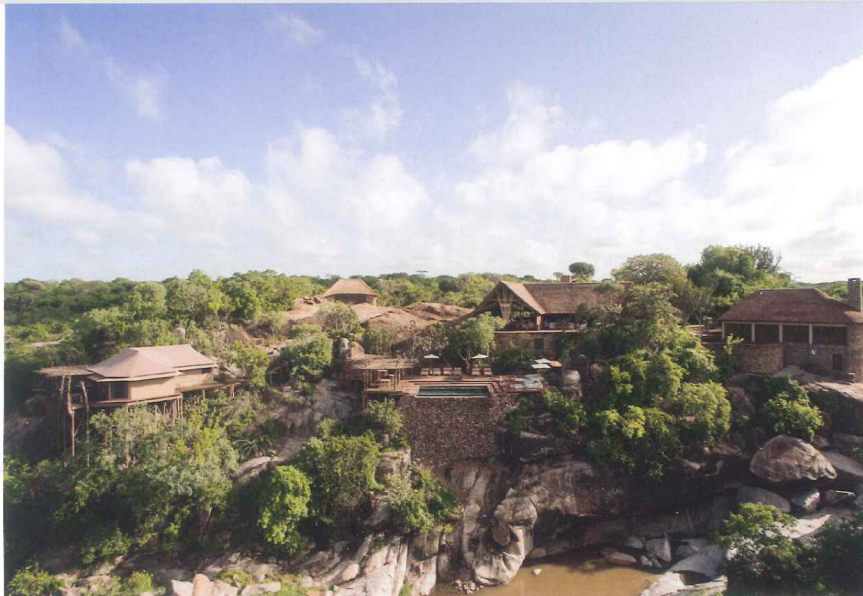
travelista

Wander woman **Sophy Roberts**
fast-tracks international intelligence
on where to be and what to see

➔ As luxury becomes increasingly down-to-earth, a new crop of English hotels are positioning themselves at the trend's pioneering vanguard. On June 1, **Ham Yard Hotel** (www.firmdalehotels.com; from £310) will open in **LONDON**'s Soho – with a kitchen garden atop the roof. Here, home-grown tomatoes, blueberries and their ilk will be farmed to create a new feature on the capital's skyline. Built in a vacant lot off Great Windmill Street, this 90-room hotel from designer Kit Kemp will also have a restaurant, bar and drawing room, as well as an adjacent 176-seat cinema and four-lane 1950s-style bowling alley. For out-of-town chic, one needs to look towards **The Pig on the Beach**, opening also in June in sleepy **DORSET** (www.thepighotel.com; from £185). Occupying a Victorian folly under the National Trust's long-term custody on the Studland peninsula, the historic building – a quirky, dolls'-house-like confection of jumbled periods, panelling and latticed windows – has been recast under the new regime (the same owners created Hampshire's original Pig Hotel). Highlights include dovecotes to sleep in and a restaurant in a conservatory looking towards the slate-blue English Channel. The fields beneath the ha-has are grazed by the hotel's flock of Dorset Horns, while pigs snuffle for truffles below the holm oaks. In the upcoming months, guests can expect pork served up as fashionable pre-dinner charcuterie.

➔ If getting in touch with a more natural way of living is important for family holidays, then **Kid & Coe** (www.kidandcoe.com) gets it right, championing exceptional destinations like **Galápagos Safari Camp** on **SANTA CRUZ** (from \$3,580 for a five-day, six-night tour for a family of six), where the owners' children – who also help play host to guests' children – are more at ease with giant tortoises than they are with the usual coterie of dogs. This new agency specialising in family vacations has style-sensitive tentacles reaching all over the world, providing clients with chic, uncluttered homes-for-rent in destinations ranging from **BALI** to **CAPE COD**.

➔ For a child-free zone – and thus the perfect honeymoon – there's a stylish nautical option in **INDONESIA**: **Alexa** (www.alexaprivatecruises.com). This white-as-a-cloud wooden *phinisi* has recently been turned into a spectacular single-suite boat that cruises the waters around the Indonesian archipelago



Above: Mwiba safari camp in Tanzania.
Below: Ham Yard Hotel in London's Soho



Above: Desinare cooking school and event venue in Oltrarno, Florence





Above: Villa Alba at Castiglion del Bosco in Tuscany. Below: Galápagos Safari Camp on Santa Cruz

by conceptual artist Allen Ruppberg in 1971 – a Sunset Boulevard fixture for six months that hosted gatherings and provided an occasional bed for the night. For Frieze, Ruppberg is working with LA-based artist group Public Fiction, creating two rooms and a lobby.

➔ If staying in such a place feels like you're making an exhibition of yourself, then **Mwiba** (www.legendaryexpeditions.com; from \$2,100 per night) in **TANZANIA** is the very opposite – a brand-new, off-the-beaten-track safari camp of impressive luxury proportions with no other lodge in close proximity. Set to take on the likes of the private reserve Singita Grumeti, this American-owned project overlooks a rocky gorge on the Arugusinyai River, and is made up of eight double suites – stilted, so they touch the earth lightly and have a low impact on the land – which are layered in shades of cream, tan, chocolate and charcoal. Canvas “outdoor-in” bathrooms have soaking tubs that look towards transporting views of more than 50,000 acres of privately leased wildlife country. There's also a gym and pool, as well as in-room massage treatments. Booking can be made through Journeys by Design (www.journeysbydesign.com).

➔ For a multigenerational family holiday, ambitious African safaris are on a rising curve; on a kinder budget is the Italian alternative, taking a house on the Massimo Ferragamo-owned, 4,000-acre **Castiglion del Bosco** estate (www.castigliondelbosco.com; doubles from €450) in **TUSCANY**, where **La Canonica Cooking School** kicks off a new season focusing on

the Italian home-cook's “forgotten flavours” (two-hour classes from €200 per person). The appeal of this place is its emphasis on families and feasting under a Tuscan sun, which is also true of another new cooking venture: **Desinare** (www.desinare.it) in **FLORENCE**, which launched in March with classes (from €120 per person in a group of five or more), an event venue and a cookshop in the elegant Oltrarno premises of interior designer Riccardo Barthel. ♦



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(all-inclusive three-night charters from \$9,000). There's also **NEW YORK**, where this month an unusual adults-only pop-up hotel opens during the Frieze Art Fair, which runs May 8-12 on Randall's Island Park (www.friezenewyork.com). **Al's Grand Hotel** (rooms from £350) will be located inside the main Frieze tent (which holds a Guinness World Record as the largest single-unit marquee), and is a reimagining of a pop-up created



Above: the Alexa boat cruising around the Indonesian archipelago