

LUXURY WITHOUT COMPROMISE

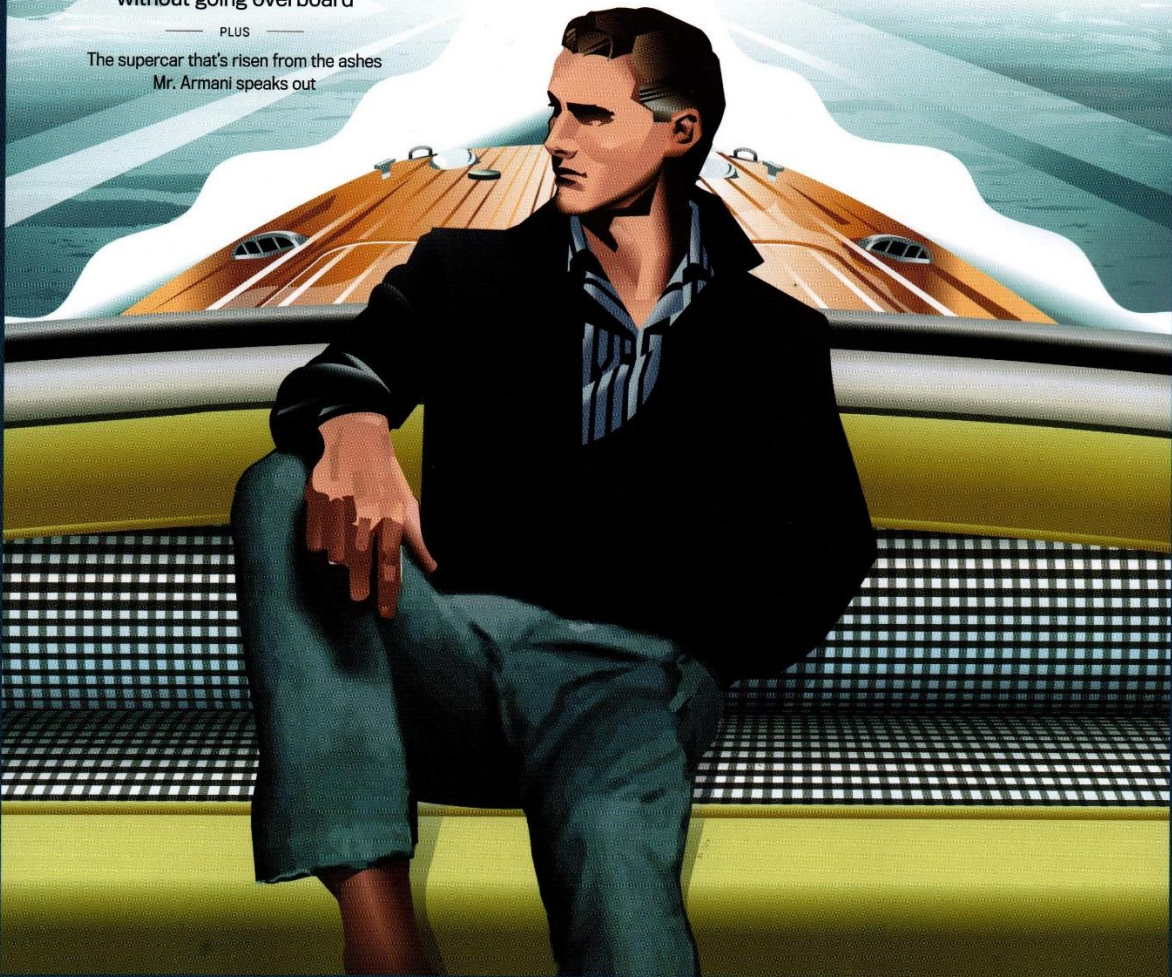
Robb Report

Arriving in Style

How to live well...
without going overboard

PLUS

The supercar that's risen from the ashes
Mr. Armani speaks out



SEPTEMBER 2019

in on the idea in multiple cities. The well-designed, cozy spaces are combined with quality service to remind guests that they're still on vacation—and don't have to make the bed.

Home-tels are usually made up of multiple units inside a large villa or mansion and have homey amenities like kitchens, laundry units and ample common spaces. But there are also personalized check-in, daily cleaning, a concierge and, in some cases, even turndown and room service.

The Levee

This restored villa in the heart of Tel Aviv was built in 1913. In April 2019 it launched with eight uniquely designed and spacious apartments, including a four-bedroom penthouse. Each is filled with luxurious amenities and Italian furnishings from designers like Moroso, Paola Lenti and Baxter. Apartments have top-of-the-line kitchens and washer/dryers, as well as stacks of art books, and the Levee offers a 24/7 concierge, turndown service and bicycles for

seeing the city. A private rooftop lounge is in the works. leveethv.com

Atemporal

Conceived as the imaginary home of a globe-trotting freelance photographer, the nine rooms of this design-forward home-tel are in a renovated 1940s mansion in the center of Lima. For guests who wish to leave their rooms, a salon and leafy garden await, all with

The home-tel: a home-away-from-home feeling plus the deluxe services of a hotel.

perfectly placed seating. Breakfast is served daily, and there's 24/7 room service, as well as bikes and a car (with driver). atemporal.pe

The Grand House

Debuting in March 2019 with a growing portfolio of 11 beautifully appointed private homes in central Rome, this home-tel brand

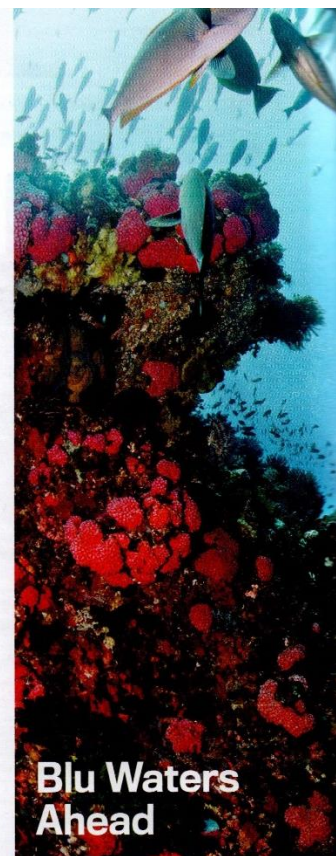
provides guests with a mobile phone and access to its Grand Club, an exclusive space in the city center for working, relaxing or booking an adventure. The Grand House also offers experiences like a day at the Testaccio market with Cristina Bowerman, the only female Italian Michelin-starred chef, or an in-home chamber-music concert. thegrandhouse.com

La Réserve Apartments

La Réserve operates 10 fully equipped apartments inside a Haussmann-style building in Paris's 16th Arrondissement. Apartments can be personalized with books and music, stocked with groceries and wine, and rearranged for a reception, for instance. Services include a 24/7 butler and concierge, a dedicated housekeeper and room service. Personal training sessions in the apartment, a boot camp in the Trocadéro gardens and access to the Roland-Garros tennis courts stand in for a gym. lareserveparisapartments.com



The Grand House offers 24/7 staff in its central Rome private homes.



Blu Waters Ahead

TO FEED TRAVELERS' latest appetite for adventure, one company is thinking small—very small, in fact. The Aqua Expeditions-owned *Aqua Blu*, a long-range luxury yacht, will have just 15 suites, all facing the sea, when it launches around the Indonesian archipelago in November. It will provide an intimate experience for those seeking outings in lush jungles or snorkeling and diving in pristine coral reefs, but who wouldn't mind some spa time when they get back on board, thanks very much.

Previously, if you wanted to visit the archipelago by water, you'd charter a *phinisi*, a traditional two- or three-masted sailboat, that had been modified for leisure. But the *Aqua Blu* will add a different option: Aqua Expeditions, the company that runs the excellent river-touring *Aria Amazon* and *Aqua Mekong*, will apply its boutique sensibility to the first yacht to be permanently based in the area.

The ship has a storied history. Commissioned in 1968, it was one of four Bulldog-class vessels used by the Royal Navy as coastal surveyors. It ended up with Aqua, though, and underwent a luxury upgrade, with a nearly 1-to-1



The Indonesian archipelago is full of extraordinary wildlife interactions.

crew-to-guest ratio, sundeck, lounge and bar, and outdoor Jacuzzi.

The nine itineraries are equally impressive: Komodo National Park, with its 5,000 giant lizards and protected waters; the Raja Ampat archipelago, 27,000 square miles of land and sea in the Coral Triangle; and Ambon and the Spice Islands, where nutmeg plantations lie within view of a volcano. Just pick whichever takes your fancy. **Amy DiLuna**



Aqua Blu bridge, deck suite.

OTHER INTIMATE ITINERARIES

The *Coral Geographer*, a 120-passenger ship from Australia-based **Coral Expeditions**, takes its first trip—from Singapore across the Indian Ocean to the Seychelles—in January 2021. A special overnight excursion to Sri Lanka includes a dusk safari at Yala National Park.

By 2020, the very luxe **Ponant Explorers**

fleet will have added six ships that carry a max of 184 passengers each in 92 cabins. One standout feature, in addition to Hermès toiletries and a 24-hour butler: a lounge with a small bar with windows below the waterline, so you can scuba while staying bone-dry. The ships, all named for French explorers, will

travel to the Bissagos Islands, the Maldives, Papua New Guinea and other locales polar and tropical alike.

Up to 12 guests can take **Offshore Outpost's Pacific Provider** to the Sea of Cortez or Alaska, where, if you catch a salmon, they'll prepare it for you on a grill. Life doesn't get much

fresher than that.

The *Harmony G* from **Variety Cruises** is a megayacht with 21 cabins to whisk away a max of 44 guests. Choose among six itineraries: one to Egypt, Jordan, Israel and the Red Sea, or five to Greece, because are you even living if you haven't seen the sun set over the Acropolis? **A.D.**

ROBB RECOMMENDS...



Nice Water Indeed

If the occasionally bone-rattling three-and-a-half-hour drive from Cape Town doesn't leave you completely breathless, your first glimpse of Lekkerwater Beach—when you spy cottages clinging to a hillside cloaked in fragrant fynbos, with an endless sweep of ocean unfurling below—will take care of the rest.

This scenic swath of South Africa's remote De Hoop Nature Reserve was favored by former president F. W. de Klerk as a weekend retreat. Today, it's reborn as a seven-room seaside hideaway by safari outfitter Natural Selection.

In keeping with the breezy beach-house spirit, rooms are spare but sumptuous, and meals are communal and delicious. But the focus, from every angle, is what lies beyond. The secluded setting and marine-protected coastline mean guests are outnumbered by dolphins and whales; in fact, De Hoop claims some of the best land-based whale watching in the world.

In this era of hyperbole, the lodge's name is refreshingly unassuming: As you sit on the deck of your chalet, watching southern right whales breach and spout. It might strike you that Lekkerwater, or "nice water" in Afrikaans, is an epic understatement. **Sarah Khan**

