



Condé Nast Traveller

OCTOBER 2016 £4.30

READERS' TRAVEL AWARDS 2016

THE WORLD'S TOP 100

ISLANDS ★ HOTELS ★ SPAS ★ CITIES ★ SKI RESORTS ★ COUNTRIES

EXCLUSIVE

THE NEW BRIT HIT: THE PIG OPENS IN DEVON

ITALY'S COAST

THE RETRO-CHIC SEASIDE FIX

GLOBETROTTING LOVE LETTERS

BY FLORENCE WELCH, KATE WINSLET, BILL NIGHY,
EDDIE REDMAYNE, KATE MOSS & SOFIA COPPOLA

+

IBIZA'S MOST
EXTRAORDINARY
ADDRESS

SECRET MALLORCA

SLOW FOOD AND SLEEPY VILLAS

EATING, SHOPPING, POOTLING

PARIS, MELBOURNE,
STOCKHOLM, LIMA,
MALDIVES

WHERE TO GO FOR...

A Last Blast of Sunshine

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OCTOBER 2016

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The results are in, revealing where and how you like to travel – from your favourite islands to top spas

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Late-summer sun is only a short hop away. Head to the island's untouched north-east for a low-key Balearic break

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Once a year the nomadic Wodaabe tribe gather in a remote location for a beauty pageant like no other: we join the party

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With its curious food scene and down-home aesthetic, the rugged archipelago is a far-flung new frontier of Scandi cool

146 **Calabria**

This often overlooked Italian region of endless beaches and fiery flavours whizzes along at its own Vespa speed

SONG SAA PRIVATE
ISLAND IN CAMBODIA

STAYING POWER

CONDÉ NAST TRAVELLER HAS JOINED FORCES WITH ASSOULINE
TO PUBLISH A BOOK OF THE WORLD'S MOST BRILLIANT HOTELS AS
CHOSEN BY OUR LOVELIEST WANDERERS. HERE'S A SNEAK PEEK



The image is a full-page spread. The top half features a text overlay on a background image of a tropical beach. The bottom half is a larger, more detailed photograph of the same location. The background image shows a thatched roof in the foreground and a wooden pier extending into the water. The larger photograph at the bottom shows a series of thatched-roof buildings along a wooden pier that runs over the water. A person is walking on the pier. The water is a deep blue-green color. The sky is a clear, pale blue.

LIVIA FIRTH

SONG SAA, CAMBODIA

Song Saa means 'the sweethearts', and the story of it is a rare tale of love over greed. When Melita Hunter and her husband Rory first discovered this pair of islands in the untouched Koh Rong archipelago, they fell in love with the place and immediately vowed to protect it. With their Song Saa Foundation, they created the first-ever marine reserve in Cambodia. They have involved the local community from the start, and it's truly a model sustainable business. My husband Colin and I have been lucky enough to stay in wonderful hotels around the world. But the true soul of Song Saa makes it different from other places. Melita and Rory describe it as luxury that treads lightly, and it's a lovely way of putting it. Real luxury today should be all about integration. Everything here has been produced with local materials and recycled and upcycled when possible. The rooms are so private and beautiful that you are tempted to never leave your cocoon and instead just languish in the pool overlooking the sea. But when you emerge, the people who run the hotel immediately feel like family. You want to spend time with them, listening to their stories. One day we took part in a very special Buddhist blessing ceremony and now, a few months later, I'm still grateful to wear the red string they put around my wrist. All the meals on the island are, well, spectacular. Each night it's a different location: a table on the beach; another under a tree, with millions of tealights; even a feast in the middle of the pool. The spa also offers unforgettable rituals. Under a pagoda on the sea all you hear is the water and the birds in the trees. There is an Italian expression, '*mal d'Africa*', or 'Africa sickness', used to describe the longing you feel for Africa once you leave it. Well, the day we left Song Saa, hugging and kissing everyone, we knew we had '*mal di Song Saa*'. We long to be back there.

WORD OF MOUTH



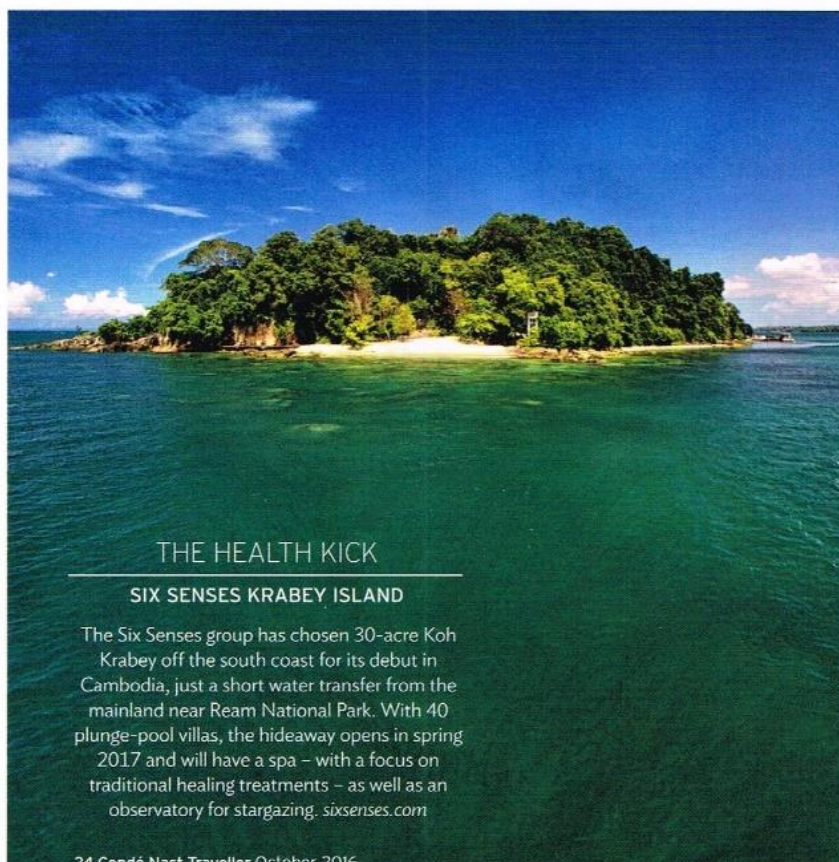
THE FAMILY HIT

ALILA VILLAS KOH RUSSEY

Joining the extraordinary Song Saa next summer is another island retreat on nearby Koh Russey. A 15-minute boat ride from the coast, this is Alila's first all-villa retreat outside Bali. The sleek and contemporary spaces each have their own private terrace, pool and garden. And with the option of a four-bedroom villa plus a kids' club, this will suit the entire adventurous crew. kohrussey.com

LAY IT ON THE LINE

For backpackers, Cambodia means chaotic markets and temple pilgrimages. But the country has a thriving contemporary scene, with new rail routes and this trio of smart hotels providing a fresh angle



THE HEALTH KICK

SIX SENSES KRABEY ISLAND

The Six Senses group has chosen 30-acre Koh Krabey off the south coast for its debut in Cambodia, just a short water transfer from the mainland near Ream National Park. With 40 plunge-pool villas, the hideaway opens in spring 2017 and will have a spa – with a focus on traditional healing treatments – as well as an observatory for stargazing. sixsenses.com



THE HIGH FLYER

ROSEWOOD PHNOM PENH

At the end of this year, Rosewood arrives on the top 14 floors of the capital's tallest building: a 187-metre tower, designed to resemble the arched back of a dragon. The interiors are by Melbourne-based Bar Studio, and there will be 175 rooms, including 27 serviced residences, a Japanese *izakaya* and the country's highest skybar set on a cantilevered terrace, with panoramic views of the Mekong. rosewoodhotels.com



READERS' TRAVEL AWARDS 2016

THE WORLD'S BEST

COUNTRIES ★ ISLANDS ★ CITIES ★ HOTELS ★ VILLAS ★ TOUR OPERATORS
AIRLINES ★ AIRPORTS ★ CRUISE LINES ★ SPAS ★ SKI RESORTS

PELION, GREECE. PHOTOGRAPHED BY TOM PARKER

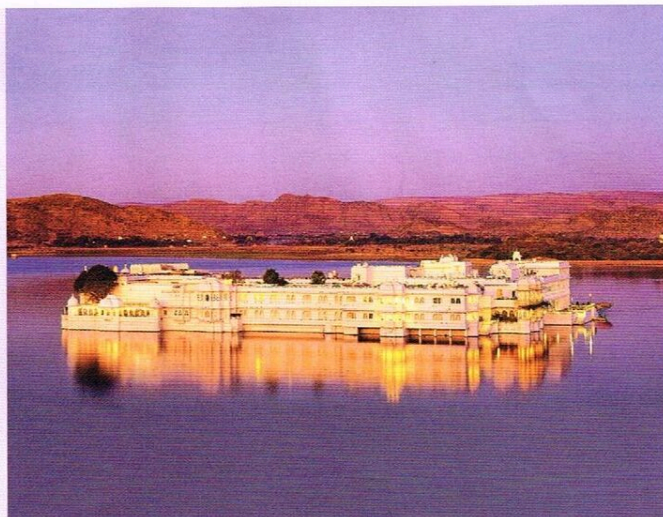


THE MIDDLE EAST, AFRICA & THE INDIAN OCEAN

- 1 SINGITA GRUMETI, TANZANIA 92.72
- 2 One&Only Reethi Rah, Maldives 92.63
- 3 Bushmans Kloof Wilderness Reserve & Wellness Retreat, South Africa 90.96
- 4 Fregate Island Private, Seychelles 89.27
- 5 North Island, Seychelles 88.00
- 6 La Mamounia, Marrakech 87.68
- 7 Singita Sabi Sand, South Africa 87.58
- 8 Soneva Fushi, Maldives 87.51
- 9 Four Seasons Resort Maldives at Landaa Giraavaru 85.72
- 10 Ellerman House, Cape Town 84.94
- 11 The Oberoi, Mauritius 84.51
- 12 Denis Private Island, Seychelles 83.65
- 13 Londolozi Game Reserve, South Africa 82.97
- 14 Belmond Mount Nelson Hotel, Cape Town 81.60
- 15 Banyan Tree Vabbinfaru, Maldives 81.41
- 16 The Chedi Muscat, Oman 81.15
- 17 The St Regis Mauritius Resort 80.54
- 18 Qasr Al Sarab Desert Resort by Anantara, Abu Dhabi 79.62
- 19 One&Only The Palm, Dubai 79.11
- 20 Cape View Clifton, Cape Town 78.47

ASIA & THE INDIAN SUBCONTINENT

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 TAJ LAKE PALACE, UDAIPUR 92.64 | 12 Four Seasons Resort Langkawi, Malaysia 80.50 |
| 2 The Datai Langkawi, Malaysia 91.04 | 13 Rambagh Palace, Jaipur, India 79.46 |
| 3 Mandarin Oriental, Bangkok 89.41 | 14 The Fullerton Hotel Singapore 78.41 |
| 4 The Oberoi Udaivilas, Udaipur 87.95 | 15 Cape Weligama, Sri Lanka 77.20 |
| 5 Raffles Singapore 87.20 | 16 Taj Falaknuma Palace, Hyderabad, India 75.81 |
| 6 The Upper House, Hong Kong 85.91 | 17 Amanpulo, Philippines 74.15 |
| 7 Wildflower Hall, Shimla in the Himalayas, India 84.66 | 18 Four Seasons Resort Chiang Mai, Thailand 73.26 |
| 8 Alila Villas Uluwatu, Bali 84.55 | 19 Amankila, Bali 72.96 |
| 9 The Leela Goa, India 83.98 | 20 Song Saa Private Island, Cambodia 72.70 |
| 10 Banyan Tree Bangkok 82.38 | |
| 11 The Sarojin, Khao Lak, Thailand 80.93 | |



WHAT ARE ALL THESE NUMBERS? They are an index of satisfaction, scored out of a maximum of 100. In our Readers' Travel Awards 2016 questionnaire posted at cntraveller.com from 3 March to 5 May, you were asked to choose the best that the travel world has to offer – from hotels and spas to airlines and airports. You were then asked to rate your choices according to various criteria, such as service, design and value for money. From your responses, we calculated the average mark on each criterion, and used this to provide the overall satisfaction percentage figure that you see on these pages and in The World's Top 100 on page 56.