



ROSEWOOD  
BEIJING



KASARA  
NISEKO  
VILLAGE  
TOWNHOUSE

# THE GREAT NEW GETAWAYS

Break into the plush comforts of 15 brand new hotels around the globe with inspired decors, personalised service and stunning locations. Early check-out unlikely. By Kylie Ng

**1** **Kasara Niseko Village Townhouse** is YTL Hotels' latest launch, tucked in the acclaimed Kasara Niseko integrated resort at the base of Mount Niseko Annupuri, Hokkaido. It is a collection of townhouses that exhibit bona fide Japanese charm, illustrated in the use of *shibumi* minimalism in its design. The rooms feature tatami furnishings, *shoji* screens and lush fur throws. The resort is surrounded by blithely entertainment options like golf, horseback riding and posh dining—including an up-and-coming brasserie helmed by Michelin-starred chef Johann Lafer. *From US\$2,000 (S\$2,527) per night for a 3-bedroom townhouse. Higashiyama Onsen, Niseko-cho, Abuta-gun, Hokkaido. Tel: +81 136 44 2211*

**2** **Rosewood Beijing**, the premier Chinese hotel under the Rosewood Hotels & Resorts brand, opens this month. The hotel presents an uninhibited view of the iconic CCTV tower and glitzy urban lights. Guests will find themselves checking in to

a deluxe home; the rooms come with walk-in closets and artworks from Beijing's promising artists.

*To mark its launch in October, Rosewood Beijing will offer a Time to Discover opening package valid from 20 October 2014 to 28 February 2015. Prices upon enquiry. Jing Guang Centre, Hujialou, Chaoyang District, Beijing. Tel: +86 10 6597 8888*

**3** Dubbed the Silicon Valley of China, Chengdu now plays host to **The St. Regis Chengdu**. The latest addition to the Starwood brand, it is positioned at the intersection of the city's commercial and luxury retail districts. The rooms are decked in a fusion of 1920s Art Deco elements and Szechuan heritage. A total of six restaurants and lounges offer a variety of cuisines; don't miss the signature afternoon tea, as well as an oriental Chuan Mary, a fiery version of the notable St. Regis Bloody Mary Cocktail. *Till 3 March 2015, The St. Regis Chengdu has an introductory offer of RMB1,750 (S\$359) for an overnight stay in a deluxe room. 99, Tidu Street, Chengdu, Sichuan. Tel: +86 28 6287 6666*



**4** Revel in a swanky beachfront vacation at **The Sanchaya**. Opened just last month, the estate is a collection of 21 villas and nine suites that are all furnished with Bang & Olufsen televisions and sound systems, and silky bed and bath linens. The different villas embody design influences from all over Southeast Asia, including Indochina and Brunei. For a slow afternoon indoors, guests can book wine, cheese and chocolate tastings either at the resort's tasting room or in their own villas. *From US\$560 (S\$708) for a night's stay at a junior suite. Lagoi Bay Village Lot B4 Bintan Resorts, Lagoi, Bintan. Tel: +62 770 692 211*



THE SANCHAYA



THE REVERIE SAIGON

**5** Escape the city buzz and head up to **Mekong Villas**, the latest member of the Secret Retreats collection. The collection of villas offers an excellent sight of Laos and the Mekong River, while its decor reflects the unspoiled allure of its lush surroundings. The rich local flavours, presented in the rustic architecture and the seasonal menu served up at the villas, make for an idyllic getaway. For leisure, paddle on the expansive Mekong with the canoes available. *From THB3,000 (S\$118) per night in a log cabin, minimum three nights stay. 96 Moo 6, Leab Mekong River Road, Ban Kok Pai, Pakchom District, Loei Province. Tel: +66 0 2222 1290*

**6** Soak up the charm that Indochina has to offer at **The Reverie Saigon**. Housed in the brand new 39-storey Times Square building in Ho Chi Minh City, The Reverie is home to The Long @ Times Square, outfitted with the longest street-level bar counter in the city. Drinks aside, the hotel serves up an array of international cuisine, such as Cantonese fare and artisanal Italian pizzas and pastas. Traverse the city like royalty with the luxury house cars, including Bentleys, Rolls-Royces and Mercedes. *From US\$450 (S\$568) for a night in a guestroom. 22-36 Nguyen Hue Blvd., Dong Khoi St., District 1, Ho Chi Minh City. Tel: +84 8 6268 1888 >*

**7** The first Mondrian hotel outside of the U.S., the **Mondrian London at Sea Containers**, throws its doors open this month. Just minutes from its doorstep lies a wealth of diverse culture: the Tate Modern, Borough Market and the Southbank Centre. Designer Tom Dixon used the building's proximity to the river to unleash a transatlantic travel-inspired facade. The building was fashioned to look like a cruise liner docked in London: curved walls throughout the hotel suggest ocean waves, rooms are decked with rosewood doors to feel like cabins, and bathroom mirrors resemble portholes. *From £200 (\$\$415) per night in a standard room. 20 Upper Ground, London. Tel: +44 0808 234 9523*

**8** With rooms and villas sporting bright colours and clear views of the coast, the **Agalia Luxury Suites** is perfect for the modern traveller. Individual chambers feature exquisite marble and avant-garde artwork. Reinvigorate one's senses by opting for yoga lessons or dining leisurely with top Greek wines at the resort's sea-view restaurant. *From €190 (\$\$310) per night for a Junior suite, Ios Island, Tzamaria. Tel: +30 210 321 8754*

**9** The **Sunborn London** combines the intimacy offered by a private yacht with all the conveniences of an upscale hotel—from a classy

restaurant, conference rooms to a progressive

gym. The magnificent vessel features 138 spacious bedrooms, and is outfitted with teak wood, a majestic glass staircase and extensive decks that offer unparalleled views of the London skyline. Given its prime location at the Royal Victoria Docks, the hotel is set to attract both corporate and leisure globetrotters. *From £250 (\$\$713) for a night aboard a twin-occupancy yacht bedroom. Royal Victoria Dock, London. Tel: +44 0 203 714 8111*

**10** Nothing illustrates *joie de vivre* quite as much as being in the heart of Paris, and living the life at **Le Cinq Codet**. A new bespoke establishment pioneered by famed designer Jean-Philippe Nuel, the hotel was crafted to have guests enjoy their rooms as if they were in their own lavish Parisian homes. The rooms resemble sophisticated collectors' lofts, with large picture windows and well-lit interiors adorned with art pieces. Expect to take carefree strolls from the hotel to the Eiffel Tower and the Invalides, just like locals do. *From €350 (\$\$572) per night for a standard room. 5 Rue Louis Code, Paris. Tel: +33 1 5385 1560*

**11** Opened this August, **The Peninsula Paris** is mere footsteps away from the Arc de Triomphe and Avenue des Champs Elysées, and was meticulously refurbished by expert stonemasons. Of the 34 extravagant suites, three are one-of-a-kind themed apartments: The Historic Suite, The Katara Suite and The Peninsula Suite. Guests can also relish a slice of Hong Kong at the LiLi Restaurant in the hotel which serves up signature Cantonese fare. *From €795 (\$\$1,300)*

LE CINQ CODET



THE PENINSULA PARIS



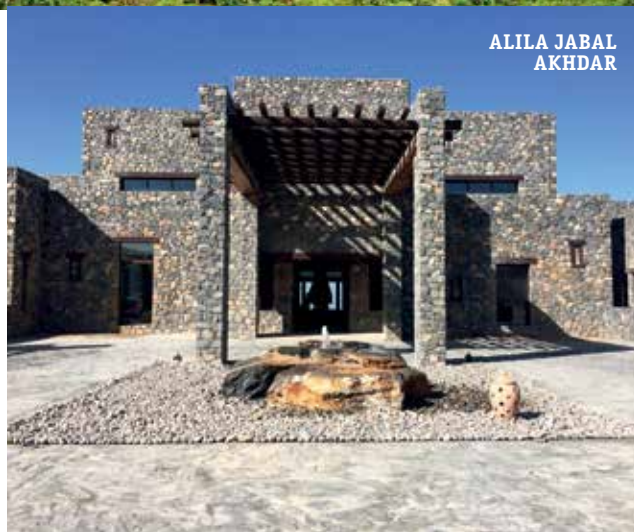
PIKAIA LODGE



the resort overlooks a breathtaking gorge, while its décor reflects the surrounding nature and incorporates architecture of ancient forts and Omani elements. Guests can also recharge at Spa Alila, or take it slow at the outdoor pools. *From US\$530 (S\$670) per night in a suite. Plot No.4 Al Roose, Jabal Al Akhdar, Nizwa. Tel: +968 2534 4200*

**14** Relive Robinson Crusoe's paradise at the **One&Only Hayman Island**. Enthroned in the midst of the Great Barrier Reef, the ultra-luxury private island resort is shrouded by the island's astonishing natural beauty. Awake to

ALILA JABAL AKHDAR



ONE&ONLY HAYMAN ISLAND

*per night for a standard room. 19 Avenue Kléber, Paris. Tel: +331 5812 2777*

**12** Live it up like a Sultan at the **Vault Karakoy**, the newest addition to The House Hotel Group which debuted in March. The hotel, located on the stylish Bankalar Caddesi (or The Avenue of Banks), is perfect for exploring Istanbul with the bohemian Beyoğlu district and the historic Sultanahmet neighbourhood nearby. The Vault Karakoy retains its Ottoman opulence, seen in the marble staircases, fireplaces and intricate columns, and pays homage to the history of its precinct with a reception fashioned after a vintage bank teller booth and a bar area incorporating a bank vault in its design. *From €239 (S\$391) per night for a room. Bankalar Caddesi No. 5, Istanbul. Tel: +90 212 244 6434*

generous views of the ocean, and lounge away by the pool or on the pristine white sand beaches. Guests can also participate in outdoor activities like barramundi feeding, wallaby spotting and water sports ranging from wakeboarding to diving. One&Only Hayman Island offers a range of suites, villas and penthouses, to cater for couple getaways or family holidays. *From AUD\$730 (S\$846) per night for a Lagoon Room. Great Barrier Reef, Queensland. Tel: +61 7 4940 1234*

**13** Retreat to the mountains, literally, with a stay at the **Alila Jabal Akhdar**. A gem among the Al Hajar Mountains in Oman,

**15** Walk on the wild side with a break at **Pikaia Lodge**, located in the untouched greenery of the Galapagos Archipelago. The eco-resort is enclosed by a UNESCO-minted marine reserve and the grounds include a wild giant tortoise sanctuary. The main building presides over two extinct volcanic craters, while the rooms are tucked away in the slopes, offering spectacular sights of the Galapagos National Park, tropical cloud forests and the Pacific Ocean. *From US\$3,230 (S\$4,078) for a 4D/3N package in a superior room. Santa Cruz Island, Galapagos Islands. Tel: +593 4371 1670 533 e*