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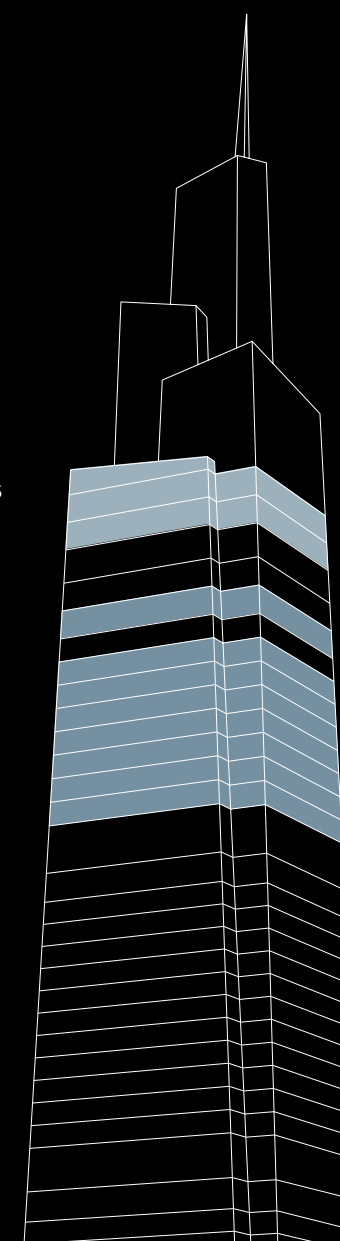
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ELIANE FATTAL



elianefattal.com

ED'S LETTER

New Normal

The world has changed. The best companies, brands and people have adapted to survive the global pandemic and a few have even thrived. UNIQUE has always strived to bring its UHNWI readers the finest showcase of luxury products and services, and we continue to do that, but we also feel the time is right to include a more serious discussion on matters affecting us all.

On a final note, many travel magazines have ceased publication or even folded as a result of the Covid crisis. At UNIQUE, we have considered it our duty to carry on publishing the magazine to the same high standards and schedule. This is partly an act of defiance, but also recognition that life goes on, private jets still fly, and we believe we have a duty to serve our readers and supporters.

UNIQUE will emerge stronger and we look forward to bringing you more challenging and thought-provoking content as well as the ultimate luxury lifestyle that you have come to appreciate.

Scott Birch, Editor



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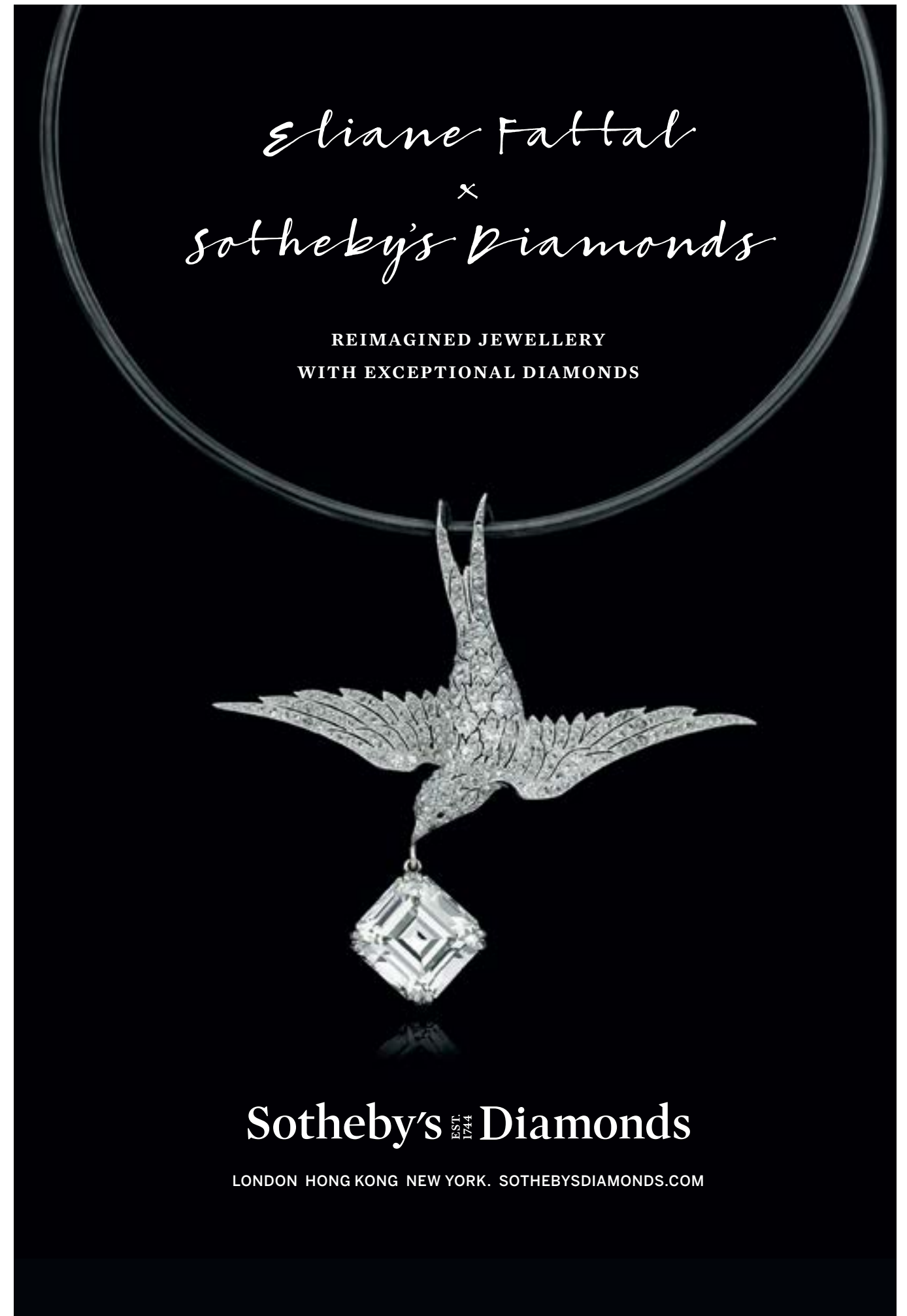
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COMPENDIUM



ARES S1 PROJECT SPYDER

This stunning sports car is the S1 Project Spyder from luxury Italian coachbuilder ARES, that will be producing a limited edition run of just 24 cars.

Based on the company's S1 Project, the Spyder's clean top line is even more striking due to the lack of a windscreen or roof. Their Centro Stile wind deflectors emerge elegantly from the bodywork, redirecting the air flow over the passengers and into the intakes behind the headrests. This creates a clever virtual canopy.

In the absence of the windscreen, the carbon fiber bodywork takes on a life of its own as it flows into the cockpit area, dividing and cocooning its passengers in the bespoke hand-crafted interior, richly finished in Napa leather and Alcantara.

The muscular S1 Project Spyder houses a naturally aspirated V8 powerplant and is expected to go from 0-100kmph in just 2.7 seconds. The rear wheel drive Spyder has an 8-speed dual clutch transmission giving the car a maximum power output of 715hp.

ARES co-founder Dany Bahar, says: "We had always planned a Spyder version of the S1 Project and since we revealed that car the reaction has been fantastic, so we are pleased to release details of the S1 Project Spyder.

"We wanted to create a model that is a true tribute to the pleasure of sport driving. This Barchetta version takes inspiration from the world of motorsport and the racing cars of the past."

www.aresdesign.com





Having grown from a collection of three iconic Hotels & Resorts in Milan, London and Bali, Bvlgari Hotels and Resorts has recently been enriched by properties in Beijing, Dubai and Shanghai, and is now looking to 2021 and the opening of its first hotel in Paris.

Located at 30 Avenue George V, the famed avenue that forms with the Champs Elysees and the Avenue Montaigne, the Bvlgari Paris boasts an extraordinary position in the famed Triangle d'Or, one of Paris' most exclusive and distinctive areas with its luxury shopping and cultural attractions.

Designed by the Italian architectural firm Antonio Citterio Patricia Viel, and the

renowned Parisian architects Valode & Pistre, the hotel will offer 76 rooms, most of them suites, and a full range of luxury facilities including a spa with a 25m pool and a Bvlgari restaurant and bar opening to a courtyard garden.

The restyling of the building has been conceived as a transition to modernity, while both the use of the typical Parisian limestone and the respect of the alignment criteria recall the 19th century Haussmanian urban patterns, the completely renewed façade evokes a rationalistic style that is an expression of the most contemporary architectural design.

Bvlgari Hotels & Resorts are all about

unique locations in harmony with the surrounding areas, blending traditional design with dramatic contemporary Italian architecture. For all hotels, the approach is the same – the design is strongly rooted in the traditions of the place with careful attention paid to every detail. Its contemporary Italian cuisine and lavish spas represents the timeless glamour of the Bvlgari brand's Italian jewellery heritage.

Following the opening of Bvlgari Hotel Paris in 2021, there are expected to be two new hotel openings in 2022 with Rome and Moscow and Bvlgari Tokyo in 2023.

www.bulgarihotels.com



BOOM JET

We have mentioned the next generation of supersonic business jet many times on the pages of Unique, yet that reality seems to be taking considerable strides forward. Leading the way is Boom Supersonic with its XB-1 jet, with its demonstrator aircraft just rolled out, and with first flight planned for 2021.

Boom Supersonic is redefining commercial flight by bringing supersonic flight back to the skies with Overture. This historic commercial airliner is designed and committed to industry-leading standards of speed, safety, and sustainability. Boom's vision is to bring families, businesses, and cultures closer together through supersonic travel

and make the world dramatically more accessible. The company is backed by world-class investors and has 30 aircraft on pre-order. Founded in 2014, Boom has assembled a team of over 140 full-time employees who have made contributions to over 220 air and spacecraft programs.

What makes Boom different from the rest of the projects in development (such as the AS2 supersonic business jet) is speed. Capable of a projected Mach 2.2 (rather than the AS2's Mach 1.4), that means the Overture could connect New York and London in just 3.5 hours, or San Francisco to Tokyo in 6 hours.

It is still early days but if the XB-1 proves the technology, and if regulators decide to loosen restrictions on the creation of sonic booms by such aircraft, then the world is going to become a lot smaller.

"Boom continues to make progress towards our founding mission – making the world dramatically more accessible," says Boom founder and CEO Blake Scholl. "XB-1 is an important milestone towards the development of our commercial airliner, Overture, making sustainable supersonic flight mainstream and fostering human connections."

www.boomsupersonic.com



FOUR SEASONS MADRID

Located in the very heart of Spain's capital, within walking distance of all the key attractions, the recently opened Four Seasons Hotel Madrid, is unique in that it brings together seven historical buildings (dating from 1887) that have been trans-formed into one dynamic destination including rooftop dining, a four-level spa and sun-splashed pool terrace.

Seven years in the making, the historic buildings have undergone a meticulous res-toration thanks to architects Estudio Lamela, who have managed to preserve more than 3,700 artefacts throughout, from original teller counters and stained glass to gilt-topped green marble columns.

Just steps from Kilometro Cero, the central point from which all distances in Spain are measured, the hotel's fantastic location means guests are within a 20-minute walk of the main points of interest, from the 300-acre Retiro Park with its incredible Glass Palace, to three of the world's best museums, including the Prado.

Among the hotel's 200 rooms and suites is the exceptional triangular Royal Suite with its double-height ceilings and numerous historic details, while the Terrace Suite delivers an expansive private furnished terrace with city views for outdoor living and dining.

The hottest new dining destination in town, with its unparalleled rooftop views and both indoor and outdoor terrace dining, the hotel's Dani restaurant comes courtesy of Spanish celebrity chef Dani Garcia, who has three Michelin stars under its culinary belt and is one of the country's most beloved chefs.

As a decades-long champion of the country's culinary heritage, Dani has created a relaxed but elegant brasserie that serves up traditional Andalusian cuisine. With a focus on using seasonal Spanish produce and supporting small-scale farmers and producers, the brasserie dishes up Spanish cheese, jamon and salads at breakfast and for lunch and dinner, dishes like deep-fried hake in a fennel and chicken sauce, hazelnut souffle with lemon cream and verbena, and the chef's famed Nitro



tomato and green gazpacho. Restaurant highlights include the carefully curated cheese trolley, the two bars serving up Spanish cocktails and the Sunday afternoon brunch with its live cooking stations and local musicians.

Then there's the hotel's gastrobar, Isa, which blends the traditions of Spain with flavours from around the world, delivering modern Asian tapas, small plates and cutting-edge cocktails. For casual dining, El Patio in the main lobby, and inclusive of a sidewalk terrace for people-watching, offers a casual menu of local tapas and pintxos.

The four-level spa retreat, which is capped by a sky-lit indoor pool and sun terrace that looks out across Madrid's rooftops, has taken claim as the largest spa in the city, offering as it does eight treatment rooms, a salon and a 24/7 fitness centre.

And more than 1,400sqm of flexible function spaces, including the glamorous oval-shaped Sol Ballroom, can accommodate both business meetings and social events – as we look forward to enjoying those once more.

www.fourseasons.com/madrid

STELTON X NORMAN FOSTER TABLEWARE

Entertaining season has been given an oh-so-elegant makeover with a collection of simple but stunning architect-designed functional home accessories.

A partnership between Danish design house Stelton, renowned for its timeless Scandinavian design philosophy, and the world-renowned British architect Lord Norman Foster, this contemporary tableware collection combines simple sculptural forms and soft geometry to create exceptionally crafted tableware for a wide range of settings.

The renowned architect, whose firm Foster + Partners is behind some of the world's most famous buildings, including London City Hall and The Reichstag Building in Berlin, has translated architectural form into tableware, using a variety of materials, including stainless steel, porcelain and glass, to create a wide array of entertaining pieces.



Just like his buildings, the range combines elegant simplicity and sculptural form, celebrating the power of the curve, and ranges from porcelain jugs and glass coffee cups, to polished steel pitchers and mirrored stainless-steel wine glasses.

For the evening collection, Foster chose to present the pieces in contrasting tones of mirrored stainless steel and copper. Unconventionally, the wine tumblers pair stainless steel on the outside and bronze tones on the inside, creating a golden effect, while champagne cooler, with its reflective surface and gold details, boasts a double-wall design that keeps the ice colder longer and reduces condensation on the outside. The stainless-steel Foster serving tray also has a mirrored silver surface featuring a non-slip coating that is resistant to stains and scratches, with a copper bottom, and a structure that slopes upwards in one fluid form.

For daytime, the elegant French Press, crafted from stainless steel, celebrates the power of the curve, while the thermo jugs and mugs for coffee and tea, sugar bowl, milk jug, bowls and carafe, all of which showcase the same curved silhouette, are made of high-quality porcelain. The carafe's long and slim silhouette makes serving drinks ever





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Since 2005, Steinway Lyngdorf has redefined the standards of audio innovation and sound reproduction. In 2006, in a re-imagining of digital acoustic compensation, RoomPerfect™ was launched, marking an entry to the market of the most sophisticated solution for adapting sound to its environment. Despite their advanced technologies, Steinway Lyngdorf components are among the easiest to install in the audio market. They are also built to last, imbued with a strength and longevity unseen in competing products. All Steinway & Sons products work with all other series components to create custom sound systems. We guarantee the legacy of absolute perfection that comes with the Steinway & Sons partnership, and this cannot be attained with a mix of “off the shelf” products from different manufacturers. No chain is stronger than the weakest link, and our full system approach ensures high efficiency in every aspect. Steinway Lyngdorf’s integrated system approach delivers solutions for any room and for any need.

UNIQUE PARTNERSHIP

Designed, developed, and manufactured in Denmark, Steinway Lyngdorf sound systems are the only systems on the planet that are qualified to be manufactured in partnership with Steinway & Sons. Steinway Lyngdorf brings together Steinway & Sons, makers of the world’s finest pianos for more than 165 years, and Peter Lyngdorf, one of the most forward-thinking audio innovators of our time. The partnership is based on an ambitious promise – that the Steinway Lyngdorf audio systems reproduce the sound of a Steinway & Sons grand piano to the degree that even seasoned concert pianists cannot discern the difference.

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NEW HORIZONS

BUPA GLOBAL LOOKS AT BUSINESS TRAVEL IN A POST-COVID WORLD

The business travel industry has dealt with many upheavals, but few have come close to the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the virus took hold in the UK, business travel has ground to a halt. Critical client meetings have moved online, frequent flier cards have been left to gather dust and colleagues around the world have learned how to communicate without jumping on a plane.

And, with new waves of restrictions now hitting for many, it looks as though normal service isn't going to resume any time soon. Indeed, Bupa Global's Executive Wellbeing Index¹ highlights that, following a long period of staying on home turf, executives are now rethinking their business travel commitments for the long term.

It shows that worldwide, executives at boardroom level spent an average of 48 days abroad or away from family last year. However, with almost half (48%) believing their mental health has benefited from travelling less during the pandemic, one in four (26%) now intend to stop all time spent away from home in the coming year.

What does all this mean for the travel industry, and for people in business who are establishing a 'new normal'?





WHAT POST-PANDEMIC TRAVEL MIGHT LOOK LIKE

Among the unknowns around a vaccine, how quickly economic recovery sets in and how soon countries roll back border restrictions, travel experts face many unanswerable questions. However, it is clear that even post-lockdown, many will be less inclined to travel, especially to destinations that have been heavily impacted by the virus.

Indeed, there are plenty of reasons beyond the immediate health risks to curb business travel. Technological solutions including video conferencing and workplace chat platforms have helped bolster communication between geographically distant executives, eliminating some of the need for expensive travel.

There’s a financial upside, too. As a looming global recession threatens to squeeze business travel budgets for some time, the standard for what does and doesn’t warrant a trip is certain to change. And, of course, environmental concerns are yet another reason to stay grounded. While aviation actually only contributes about 2 per centⁱⁱ of global emissions, it’s a pressing issue for an industry that’s particularly hard to decarbonise.

And even for those who do want to travel again, there are some practical considerations. Ensuring that appropriate pre-trip risk assessments have been made, and up to date advice is being followed, will be critical.

Businesses will also need to quickly adapt and enforce travel policies based on advice on where it is safe to travel or not, to help protect the safety of employees.

Perhaps more difficult to define, but equally important, is addressing the emotional aspect of travelling again. Some executives might feel positively towards resuming travel – feeling that, although Zoom might replicate much of the experience of an in-person chat, there’s nothing quite like seeing clients in person, especially when building relationships, hashing out the finer details of a sensitive deal or understanding how a business works from the inside.

However, it’s also normal to feel anxious and unsure about travel, uncertain about what effect it may have on your mental and emotional wellbeing. Advancements in technology have made accessibility to work whilst travelling easier – reducing the necessary downtime needed for employees to switch off and look after themselves.

Furthermore, many, often experienced travellers’ concerns, won’t be reduced simply because people haven’t travelled

for a while. Losing luggage, delayed flights and being away from loved ones are a few of the factors that contribute to bad experiences during business travel – and which may impact on wellbeing and mental health.

For Bupa Global, it’s crucial to address any feelings of anxiety proactively – and know when to seek support if you feel that worries are impinging on your mental health. During this uncertain time, business travellers need more support to ensure mental wellbeing is

considered during the return of business travel. It is important that more organisations consider implementing procedures aimed at reducing the mental health risks of business travellers.

Dr Luke James, Medical Director for Bupa Global & UK Insurance says: “We know that uncertainty around mental health can lead to delays in treatment, but that early diagnosis and treatment improves outcomes. Potential stresses and strains need to be recognised, and good planning can pay dividends.”





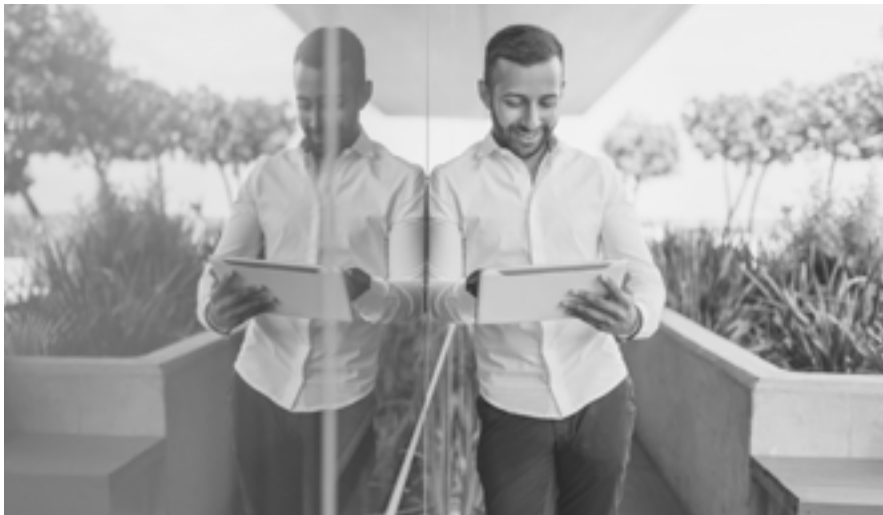
BUPA GLOBAL'S APPROACH TO MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

At Bupa Global, our purpose is helping people live longer, healthier, happier lives. We recognise that mental health is just as important as physical health and believe in helping people to feel their best and stay that way too. To support this, we have removed both annual and monetary limits* across plans for in-patient and day-patient mental health treatment. We also recognise the importance of supporting family, particularly at key milestones such as inheritance and succession planning. This is why Bupa Global offers the most extensive mental health cover for individuals and their families.

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i. Bupa Global Executive Wellbeing Index (September 2020). Research conducted among 450 high net worth individuals and senior executives across UK, France, USA, UAE and Egypt

ii. [https://www.atag.org/facts-figures.html#:~:text=The%20global%20aviation%20industry%20produces,carbon%20dioxide%20\(CO2\)%20emissions.&text=Aviation%20is%20responsible%20for%2012,to%2017%25%20from%20road%20transport](https://www.atag.org/facts-figures.html#:~:text=The%20global%20aviation%20industry%20produces,carbon%20dioxide%20(CO2)%20emissions.&text=Aviation%20is%20responsible%20for%2012,to%2017%25%20from%20road%20transport).

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ONE VANDERBILT

THE NEXT LEVEL OF OFFICE SPACE IN NEW YORK

On September 14, 2020, SL Green Realty Corp., Manhattan's largest office landlord, opened One Vanderbilt Avenue, a skyline-defining office tower in the heart of East Midtown. Standing 1,401 feet tall and totaling 1.7 million square feet, One Vanderbilt provides an unparalleled combination of amenities, innovative office design, state-of-the-art technology, best-in-class sustainability practices and Midtown's most convenient location at the doorstep of Grand Central Terminal. The iconic tower is the tallest office tower in Midtown Manhattan and now the headquarters for many of the world's leading finance, banking, law and real estate firms.



“We are proud to officially open One Vanderbilt Avenue, adding a new monument to the unrivaled Manhattan skyline, contributing to the revitalization of East Midtown and proclaiming a bright future for the greatest city in the world,” said Marc Holliday, Chairman and CEO of SL Green.

“One Vanderbilt is already the best address in Manhattan, headquarters to leading global companies and home to the most incredible space and views in New York City. One Vanderbilt is also a testament to what a public-private partnership can achieve to strengthen New York City, and we are thrilled today to deliver to New Yorkers an extraordinary array of privately-funded public improvements in and around Grand Central Terminal.”



ICONIC DESIGN

Kohn Pedersen Fox (KPF) Associates is responsible for One Vanderbilt's iconic design, which comprises four interlocking and tapering planes that spiral toward the sky. At the tower's base, a series of angled cuts on the south side of the block creates a visual procession to Grand Central Terminal revealing the Vanderbilt corner of the Terminal's magnificent cornice – a view that has been obstructed for nearly a century. The tower's terracotta facade, which incorporates the same distinct ceiling tiles found throughout Grand Central Terminal, provides the soaring structure a natural, luminous texture. The American Institute of Architects (AIA) recognized One Vanderbilt and KPF with the prestigious 2018 AIA NY Merit Award in Urban Design.

UNPARALLELED AMENITIES

In the first quarter of 2021 world-renowned chef Daniel Boulud will open the restaurant at One Vanderbilt, named 'Le Pavillon.' Le Pavillon will occupy 11,000 square feet with soaring 60-foot ceiling heights located on the southeast corner of the second floor, facing Grand Central with a striking view of the Chrysler Building.

All building tenants will be afforded access to an amenities package unrivaled in New York City office buildings, including a 30,000-square-foot tenant-only amenity floor with large format meeting spaces, club-style lounge, curated food offerings and an extraordinary outdoor terrace that faces Grand Central. Office floors feature floor-to-ceiling heights from 14.5 feet to 24 feet, column-free floor plates, stunning 360-degree views through floor-to-ceiling windows and best-in-class infrastructure. One Vanderbilt will also feature an observatory with the second-highest outdoor deck in New York City.

INNOVATION IN WELLNESS

As a global leader in environmental, social, and governance initiatives, SL Green invested \$17 million in sustainability features at One Vanderbilt, ensuring the tower maintains one of the lowest carbon footprints across similarly scaled buildings in New York City. The tower was built using steel rebar made of 90% recycled content, features cutting-edge technologies including 1.2-MW cogeneration and 90,000-gallon



rainwater collection systems, and regulates insulation for heating and cooling through its high-performance glazing. One Vanderbilt is on track to receive several environmental distinctions, including the highest levels of LEED and WELL certifications.

One Vanderbilt incorporates the "SL Green Forward" initiative, promoting a high degree of safety, cleanliness, and wellness for tenants. One Vanderbilt will have a single stand-alone application

with access control for tenants, visitor management, and elevator call, allowing for tenants and guests to move through a seamless, touch-free experience from turnstiles to elevators. The building will offer engineering controls such as MERV-16 filtration and increased outdoor air. SL Green has deployed Silent Sentinel, a thermal imaging technology with the ability to read 100 people per minute to prevent long queues.





TWENTY YEARS IN THE MAKING

One Vanderbilt's journey began in 2001 when SL Green acquired 317 Madison Avenue, the first of the four buildings that previously stood on the site. Two more properties – 331 Madison Avenue and 48 East 43rd Street – were acquired in 2007, and the final property – 51 East 42nd Street – was acquired in 2011.

Initial plans for One Vanderbilt were announced in 2013 as part of the City's initial plans to rezone East Midtown, with an updated plan put forward in 2014 as part of the Vanderbilt Corridor Rezoning that included \$220 million in public realm improvements in and around Grand Central Terminal. One Vanderbilt was unanimously approved by the City Council in May 2015, and demolition began later that year. A formal groundbreaking for One Vanderbilt was held in October 2016. In 2017, a joint venture was formed with Hines and National Pension Service of Korea.

BUILT BY NEW YORKERS, FOR NEW YORKERS

One Vanderbilt was constructed ahead of schedule and under budget by a fully-union team, under the leadership of Construction Manager AECOM Tishman, that included more than 3,000 workers over nearly four years. At its peak activity levels, over 1,400 workers were onsite daily as they worked to complete the project. In addition, the project engaged close to fifty subcontractors. The iconic tower features more than twenty-six thousand tons of US made and fabricated steel and seventy-four thousand cubic yards of concrete.

PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

One Vanderbilt represents a new model for how the private sector and government can work together to deliver crucial public infrastructure benefits, created in partnership with the City of New York and the Metropolitan Transportation Authority as part of the historic rezoning of East Midtown. Alongside One Vanderbilt's opening, SL Green unveiled a \$220 million package of public open space and transit infrastructure improvements that will help ease congestion and overcrowding on subway platforms, improve circulation in and around the terminal and create new, direct pathways to the regional railroads.

The infrastructure improvements include a new 4,000-square-foot public transit hall inside the tower, providing enhanced connections to Metro-North Railroad, the shuttle to Times Square, and the future Long Island Railroad station as part of the upcoming East Side Access project. Adjacent to the transit hall is a new 14,000-square-foot pedestrian plaza on Vanderbilt Avenue between East 42nd and 43rd Streets.

SL Green also constructed two new street-level subway entrances and re-opened the Mobil Passageway that connects Grand Central to a new entrance on the south east corner of 42nd Street and Lexington Avenue. Circulation within the Grand Central subway station has also been significantly improved, with a 37% increase in mezzanine circulation space, new staircases between the mezzanine and platform levels of the 4, 5, 6, and 7 subway lines for easier access, including a new ADA elevator, new escalators and elevators, additional turnstiles and gates, and stairs by the shuttle to Times Square. These modifications will ease congestion on the platforms, resulting in at least an additional train per hour through the station.

SL Green's transit improvements at Grand Central Terminal complement MTA Construction & Development's 42 St Connection Project. When completed, the 42 St Connection Project will more seamlessly connect the transit corridor underneath 42nd Street to make transferring easier, reduce the overall commute time for customers, and expand system access for customers with disabilities by making the 42 St Shuttle line accessible. More than 1.1 million people pass through the 42nd St corridor every day—a figure higher than the ridership of the entire subway and bus system of Boston in a full day.

The commitment to union labor at One Vanderbilt will continue through the operation of the building. At full occupancy, One Vanderbilt operations will consist of almost 150 union employees with 32BJ SEIU, Local 94, and NUSOG being represented amongst the ranks.

www.onevanderbilt.com





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ELIANE FATTAL TAKES THE
FINEST VINTAGE JEWELLERY
AND UPCYCLES IT FOR A
NEW GENERATION TO ADMIRE



Beauty Reimagined



Sustainability is a key phrase across all kinds of industries right now – from fashion to food. It has become a global movement with upcycling and the circular economy proving popular with consumers. When it comes to luxury, the idea of coveting a previously owned item is not unknown – just look at classic cars or vintage time-pieces.

Artist Eliane Fattal takes that upcycling ethos to the next level with her incredible jewellery – using her keen eye and passion to reconstruct antique pieces from the collection of estate jewels at SJ Phillips in London’s fashionable Mayfair to create new designs that are contemporary, wearable and even often transformable.

Fattal has described herself as more of an “artist working with metal and stones” than a jeweller, and only creates around 30 pieces a year.

Taking inspiration from nature for many of her striking works, Fattal’s reimagining of antique jewellery has earned her a loyal client base since she turned her hand to the art in 2011. In fact, it was her own desire to find fine jewellery that she could wear in a more informal way that drove her to experiment with making her own.

As an artist often dressed more casually, she felt that there was a gap between fine jewels that lived in the safe and brought out for special occasions (and somewhat ageing) and costume/fashion jewels that were purely decorative.

Fattal’s first piece was a ring, cleverly crafted from an antique flower brooch. The reaction was immediate, and both Fattal and SJ Phillips agreed that she should produce a 10-piece capsule collection. Unsure at first, due to her photography career and three children to look after, Fattal eventually agreed, but the capsule collection did not appear – instead, a 22-piece in-store exhibition was held in October 2011 inspired by a chance encounter with then Vogue editor-in-chief Anna Wintour.

Fattal says she realised there was a gap in the market for intellectual conversation pieces that were more about history, provenance and intelligence rather than just retail value and design.



She was right – 21 of the pieces sold within three days.

Fattal is now in high demand yet sticks to her principles when it comes to designing her creations. Firstly, she will not deconstruct anything that is signed, such as a Cartier piece. Secondly, she only works with pieces from SJ Phillips – as she knows they will be the best she could hope to find.

Each Fattal piece comes in a signature book box that includes a detailed history of its former incarnation.

Fattal is currently collaborating with Sotheby’s Diamonds on a collection of necklaces, earrings and rings.

As Wintour once said: “With Eliane’s designs, one sees the future of jewellery through the beauty of its past.”

www.elianefattal.com

OUT OF THE BLUE

ZENITH REVEALS THE SCHEMATICS OF ITS DIALS IN A SPECIAL RENDITION OF THE PILOT TYPE 20, APT-LY NAMED THE 'BLUEPRINT'

When the team at the Zenith Manufacture came across a blueprint of its historical building, it reminded them of the blueprints they had seen of earliest Aeronefs – the earliest aircraft conceived by the pioneers of flight, like Louis Blériot and his Type XI aircraft that he flew across the English Channel. As the watchmaker that accompanied the earliest aviators, Zenith sought to highlight their ingenuity in a surprising way with the Pilot Type 20 Blueprint.

There's something about blueprints that sparks intrigue and curiosity. It's what translates the wildest dreams into feasible, tangible objects. Typical of production and engineering plans in the mid-19th and early 20th centuries, each element was carefully calculated and precisely drawn as the basis of a project. Now a relic from a bygone era, the blueprint continues to fascinate, and is synonymous with thorough planning and ingenious vision.

When looking at a watch dial, we tend to pay attention to the colours, the finish, the shape of the hands, the typography of the numerals, without giving much thought to the precise calculations and design considerations that go into making it. The designers at the Manufacture sought to highlight



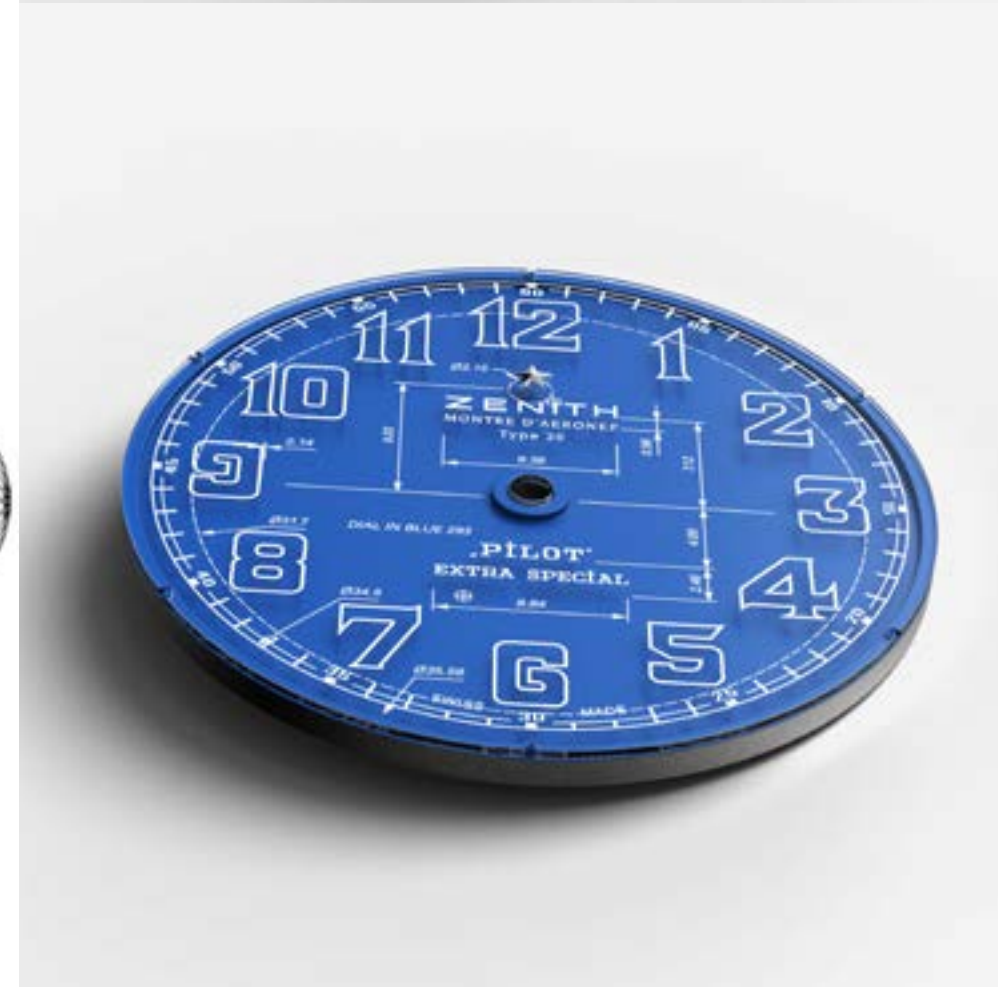


this “unseen” aspect of the dial, by incorporating its production plans directly onto it.

Unexpected and captivating, the dial is created in two parts: a matte blue base with all technical plans and notes used by the dial-maker, and above it a sapphire crystal and a sapphire crystal layer with the usual markers and logo. This creates a deep visual effect, where the various markings cast a slight shadow on the blue base and give the impression that they’re hovering.

Limited to 250 pieces, the Pilot Type 20 Blueprint remains true to the legacy of Zenith’s ubiquitous Pilot watch. The side of the case features a screwed plaque bearing the unique limited-edition number of the watch. In a nod to the earliest years of aviation, the blue calfskin leather strap recalls the classic shearling leather flight jacket, with rivets and a titanium pin buckle as well as a distinctive tab you would find on a vintage pilot’s helmet.

We love the attention to detail and the concept behind the Blueprint.



A vibrant tropical beach scene. On the left, a dense line of palm trees and lush greenery borders a pristine white sand beach. The beach curves along the edge of a crystal-clear turquoise sea that transitions into a deep blue ocean. Gentle waves with white foam wash onto the shore. The sky is a brilliant blue, filled with soft, white cumulus clouds. In the far distance, a range of low mountains is visible on the horizon. The overall atmosphere is one of peace and natural beauty.

HEAVEN ON EARTH

It's time to discover the Philippines – a diverse archipelago packed with incredible beaches, soaring mountains, and rich in culture



There are few places on earth as diverse and rich in natural wonders as the Philippines. Consisting of more than 7,600 islands, this incredible archipelago in Southeast Asia is fast becoming one of the top destinations for luxury travelers.

With white sandy beaches, incredible diving spots, island hopping and centuries of culture to immerse yourself in, the Philippines is a post-Covid destination that should be on everyone's bucket list for 2021.

With so much to do, incredible sights to explore, or to just relax on your own private beach in luxurious barefoot resorts – the Philippines has it all.

Just a two-hour flight from Hong Kong or four hours from Singapore, the many regions and islands afford visitors privacy and the security of a remote retreat away from the pressures of the world.

In fact, the population of around 100 million in the Philippines is spread out so thin that the population density in Hong Kong and Singapore is at least 20 times higher. Food for thought when you are looking to escape the metropolis.

The Philippines is a place where you can surround yourself with the very best that Mother Nature has to offer – the only hardship is deciding which of the many highlighted destinations to choose from. Luckily, Unique is here to guide you.





PERFECT PALAWAN

Featured on numerous Hot Lists for 2020 prior to the global pandemic, Palawan's attraction remains unscathed even with recent events. This island province is widely regarded as one of the world's most beautiful places and it's easy to see why. With crystal-clear azure seas and white sand beaches, this is a paradise for those who love to switch off by the sea. Huge limestone crags jut from the waters, and there are hidden lagoons and shipwrecks to explore in your yacht. This is a great spot for divers of all abilities, and you are guaranteed to catch glimpses of stunning marine life, including turtles.

The capital of Palawan, Puerto Princesa, is a short hop from Manila and a starting

point for many when it comes to island-hopping adventures. Other highlights include El Nido and San Vicente. Coron is the real watersports center, best known for its snorkeling and wreck diving, plus the iconic Kayangan Lake.

Accessible only by private plane, Amanpulo is a luxury resort from Aman, blissfully marooned in the middle of the Sulu Sea. A private island fringed by white sand beaches, the resort offers a back to nature experience in supreme luxury and privacy. Just steps from the beach in secluded settings along Pamalican Island's shore, Amanpulo's Villas offer the ultimate in privacy. Designed for seamless indoor-to-outdoor living, each one is arranged around an expansive swimming pool with outdoor

lounging and dining areas. All villas are staffed by a private chef and butler, and club cars (one per bedroom) invite independent exploration of the island.

The calm, clear seas are ideal for kite surfing, while divers can explore the coral reef, teeming with marine life just 300 meters offshore. Alternatively, take it easy in the award-winning spa that is located inside the resort. The Aman Spa is set on a hillside above the treetops with far-reaching views of sea. Visiting wellness experts are frequently in residence, adding their own range of specialist therapies to the already comprehensive spa menu. Why not try the full body massage named Pag-asa, after the Filipino word for 'hope' – something we can all relate to.





BRILLIANT BORACAY

Perhaps one of the best-known tourism destinations is Boracay Island – famed for its incredible beaches (including the White Beach) and its friendly atmosphere. This is where you will catch some of the most incredible sunsets if they are your thing, and there is the usual mix of activities to suit all moods.

In 2012, Boracay was named Best island in the World by Travel + Leisure, and in

2014 topped the list produced by Conde Nast Traveller.

Put simply, Boracay offers the ultimate in island life and adventure – from immaculate beaches to stunning sunsets, refined resorts to water-based activities.

For accommodation, we recommend Shangri-La's Boracay Resort & Spa which exudes tropical island luxury. The resort's layout offers spectacular vistas of lush green scenery and azure ocean views

from every vantage point.

The Presidential Villa features panoramic sea views and is the resort's most luxurious accommodation. A combination of three individual villas set across 1,727sqm, it features an amazing viewing deck perfect for catching the stunning Boracay sunsets. This villa includes an elegant living area, dining room and kitchen which is perfect for a family looking for extra space and seclusion.



SPECIAL CEBU

The province of Cebu is popular for its range of natural, historical, and cultural attractions – which is perfect for anyone looking for more than just a brilliant beach break.

Of course, Cebu does provide that. Bantayan Island and Malapascua Island in the north are great beach destinations. Malapascua is the only place in the world where thresher sharks can be seen almost every day – an unforgettable experience for the brave snorkeller!

Another memorable excursion is to head south of Moalboal where you will see hundreds of thousands of sardines swimming in the seas – and of course featured on the local menus.

There are other natural delights to be found inland, such as hiking Osmeña Peak, trekking to Tumalog Falls, or discovering some of the many caves dotted around the area.

We recommend the Shangri-La Mactan Resort and Spa, Cebu as a lush garden retreat with a beachfront setting in this tropical paradise. The 2-bedroom Presidential Suite has stunning ocean views and a private balcony.

Cebu City, the capital of Cebu province, is cosmopolitan and rich in history, so it is well worth taking a guided tour, taking in sites like Magellan's Cross, as well as old churches and museums.





QUIRKY BOHOL

The island of Bohol is another must-visit and offers a number of unique experiences and landscapes, one of the most beautiful places to visit in the Philippines.

Bohol has numerous relics of Spanish colonial times, such as ancient churches that provide a glimpse of the province's historical and cultural heritage. The restored Baclayon Church is a fine example.

A trip to Bohol is incomplete without checking out the striking, unusual Chocolate Hills. These green hills turn brown during the summer months and remind visitors of the famous Hershey's Kisses.

Another highlight would be to catch a glimpse of the tarsier – the world's smallest primate at just 4 to 6 inches long with large eyes that can only be found in Southeast Asia. There are tarsier sanctuaries on the island where you can see these tiny creatures.



While in Bohol, try the Loboc River Cruise experience for a memorable feast while cruising and being serenaded by local music.

If staying in Bohol, try the 5-star Donatela Resort & Sanctuary. The resort has a range of villas available, including The Pool Villas set in lush botanical gardens. The distinct slanted walls of the traditional Tribal Ifugao design of the villas do not only give distinct character, but also the perfect feeling of what the resort calls 'snugginess'.





MANILA AND MORE

It would be a shame to skip the vibrant capital city of Manila on any trip to the Philippines, as this bustling city is packed with historic sites, museums, ancient churches, and the landmark Spanish fortress of Intramuros. You can even wander the cobbled streets of the Walled City and check out Manila Cathedral, built in 1571.

Even if simply spending one night here before heading on to your secluded beach retreat, it's essential to soak up the atmosphere and meet the friendly Filipinos. Savour the energetic streets and warm welcome from the locals.

In normal times, there is a calendar of incredible events to witness that showcase the local culture. It is also essential to sample the many delicacies that make up Filipino food – and international restaurants that have attained coveted Michelin stars.

Surfing aficionados must head to Siargao with its famous Cloud 9 beach – we suggest you stay at the awesome Nay Palad Hideaway resort if you can, for the ultimate in barefoot luxury.

Alternatively, head to Davao and climb the soaring Mount Apo – the nation's highest peak at 2,954 meters, and part of the Apo-Talomo mountain range. Davao City, the gateway to the island of Mindanao, is a colorful place packed with parks, wildlife centers and fabulous traditional dining.

With nature at its heart and a dedication to sustainable tourism, the Philippines is a destination very much of the here and now. With such a diverse range of landscapes and attractions for the discerning visitor, plus the promise of seclusion and privacy in some of the most beautiful places on earth, now is the time to discover the riches that these islands have to offer.

Visit app.philippines.travel



TRAVEL ADVICE

The Philippine Department of Tourism (DOT) ensures that tourism stakeholders implement the Safety protocols and precautionary measures set by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Department of Health (DOH). For the latest information and travel advice, visit app.philippines.travel





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THE ALPINE ROSE

The alpine rose is a typical Swiss flowering plant from the Alps. It has bright pink blossoms and grows at altitudes up to 3,200 meters. Its evergreen leaves are especially resistant to high UV radiation and extreme dryness and cold. The sturdy leaves are a shiny green, even once the snow has melted in the spring. This phenomenon is due to the presence of a special protection protein called dehydrin in the leaves of the alpine rose.

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IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR SECOND CITIZENSHIP IN ONE OF THE
HAPPIEST, SAFEST, MOST UNSPOILT PLACES ON THE PLANET,
SPEAK TO THE VANUATU INVESTMENT MIGRATION BUREAU

THE CALL OF **VANUATU**



For the global traveller, 2020 has been an unprecedented year where many have had to rethink their priorities and indeed in some cases their entire way of life. With the acceleration of the digital transformation – many pundits agree that we have witnessed a decade of advancement in just a few months – companies and individuals are changing the way they live their lives, and where they choose to do that.

In many ways, the Covid-19 pandemic has also been a catalyst for citizenship by investment (CBI) programmes around the world. Around 15 countries offer the opportunity to become one of their citizens, and enjoy the freedoms of having a second passport, in return for an investment that helps bring vital funds into those countries to support local communities.

Many of those citizenship programmes are located in the Caribbean nations (including Dominica and Grenada) but one programme far removed from the others is proving increasingly popular thanks to its remote location, untouched nature, and reputation for a better way of life.

That country is Vanuatu – an archipelago of 83 islands in the South Pacific, located some 1,000 miles east of Australia,



Vanuatu is part of the Commonwealth and has consistently been awarded the Happiest Place in the World by the Happy Planet Index, making it attractive for citizenship by investment.

That remote location and low population density is a major benefit, as highlighted by the country being almost entirely untouched by Covid-19. With a resident population of just 280,000 and a mere

2.5-hour flight from Australia, plus the fact that English and French are official languages, Vanuatu is hot property right now.

Vanuatu Tourism Office's CEO, Adela Issachar Aru, is bullish on the prospects for Vanuatu as an untouched South Pacific destination. "With a rebranding last year based around the slogan 'Answer the Call of Vanuatu', the timing



VIMB Chief Executive James Elcocke-Harris

of this bold campaign message could not be better," says Ms Issachar Aru.

"We are convinced that Vanuatu is about to reap the benefits of years of nurturing our image as a safe, ecologically pristine and culturally rich destination – both for holiday makers, adventure seekers and also those who wish to form stronger ties with our beautiful nation."

Unveiled in 2017, Vanuatu's Development Support Program (DSP) is the only one on offer in the Asia-Pacific region. Its programme is widely considered to be one of the fastest routes to a second passport, with approvals possible in just 45 days.

Appointed directly by the Government, Vanuatu Investment Migration Bureau (VIMB) is a global network of authorised representative offices for the promotion of Vanuatu's DSP.

VIMB are the go-to experts when it comes to applying for Vanuatu citizenship and has a team of dedicated professionals able to help with the entire process. VIMB can also help individuals





explore investment opportunities in Vanuatu, and provide one-on-one personal assistance, on the ground.

Application for Vanuatu citizenship is straightforward when you deal with VIMB. There is no language requirement, you do not need to visit Vanuatu or reside there to obtain citizenship, and with VIMB's own team handling the entire process end-to-end, professionalism and reliability are assured.

THE PERSONAL TOUCH

It is this personal attention to every detail that stands VIMB apart, and something that Chief Executive James Elcocke-Harris is keen to emphasise.

A true "global citizen", he has spent the greater part of his life living and working in different parts of the world. Representing Vanuatu's Development Support Program since its launch in 2017, he was this year appointed as Vanuatu's Honorary Consul to the United Kingdom, based in London. Chief amongst his objectives in this role is to expand and enhance Vanuatu's international profile – first with the establishment of a High Commission in the UK, and then, as a Special Envoy for Vanuatu's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to seek opportunities for further expansion of Vanuatu's diplomatic and commercial reach in the EMEA region.

"We recognise that taking a second Citizenship is a highly personal undertaking – one for which our clients expect us to excel in terms of our proficiency and integrity," says Elcocke-Harris. "We pride ourselves on our 'end-to-end' control of all aspects of the application process and have the sophistication to understand that often the Citizenship needs to be structured as part of a wider personal plan – for example combining Vanuatu Citizenship with Residency in another more accessible travel-hub – such as the United Arab Emirates."

Another key player assisting the Vanuatu Government with its management and distribution of the DSP is Australian-native Daniel Agius. Based in Port Vila, Vanuatu and a naturalised or 'Ni-Vanuatu' Citizen, Agius is a well-known local figurehead, servicing an international client base for a wide



Daniel Agius

variety of corporate services under his iCOUNT brand.

Joining forces with Elcocke-Harris in early 2019, Agius is now 'double-hatted' as COO for VIMB to ensure smooth local administration for the DSP, whilst at the same time as MD of iCOUNT fielding enquiries from around the world ranging from the simple (corporate formations) to the complex (banking or gaming license applications) through to the exotic (negotiating sales of entire tropical islands for development).

As Agius says: "Obtaining a Vanuatu passport is merely the beginning of the journey. This is not a 'one-time' investment for convenience, but the start of a lifelong association with a country that is genuinely worth embracing as a second – if not first – home. And with citizenship being hereditary, it is a valuable legacy to pass on to future generations."

Together, Agius and Elcocke-Harris present a unique array of resources and are constantly seeking ways to improve the DSP's value, something that has not gone unnoticed within the Vanuatu

Central Government itself.

Vanuatu's DSP is managed by the Citizenship Commission under Chairman Ronald Warsal – a former Minister of Justice and a career lawyer. Since assuming his position in 2020, Warsal has been highly proactive in cultivating a stronger international profile for the DSP – and VIMB is one of the key partners for this.

"Vanuatu's Citizenship by Investment (CBI) Program has seen exponential growth during the almost four years since its launch," says Warsal. "It is my goal to see the DSP become one of the global 'top 5'. We have all the ingredients for this but need to keep working tirelessly on strengthening the program structure and management to make sure we are in-step with the global CBI industry as this sector evolves.

"I have great admiration for what VIMB has done to promote the DSP internationally and their professionalism has been of significant support in my mandate for the program's development."

THE VANUATU DIFFERENCE

“Vanuatu’s remote location and relatively underdeveloped landscape may have been seen as a downside a year ago but is now a noteworthy positive,” says Elcocke-Harris. “Vanuatu is an attractive destination for anyone considering citizenship by investment for the convenience of travel but increasingly as a second home or welcome retreat from the rest of the world.”

A Vanuatu passport provides visa-free/ on arrival travel to around 130 countries, including the UK, EU, Russia, Singapore and Hong Kong, and this list is growing. There are three major airports serving Vanuatu with direct international flights to and from Australia, New Zealand, Fiji and the Solomon Islands.

Private jets are becoming an increasingly common sight at Vanuatu’s Bauerfield

Airport, with flight times between 7-8 hours from major South East Asian hubs such as Singapore or Jakarta.

Vanuatu’s own airline operates 28 routes domestically, and with a rising number of the islands capable of receiving private aircraft, an ‘island-hopping’ experience by air is entirely feasible.

In fact, private jet travel may prove to be one of the first forms of inbound tourism/ visits possible once the restrictions that have enabled Vanuatu to remain almost entirely Covid-19 free have been eased.

“We would strongly encourage private jet users to put Vanuatu on their visit list for 2021,” says Director of Vanuatu’s Department of Tourism, Jerry Spooner. “Arrivals by this form of transport are obviously much easier for us to manage with regard to Covid-19 risk mitigation. We do not yet have a date for the

reopening of our borders, but over the coming months we should be able to clarify how any ‘private jet corridor’ could work.”

Vanuatu is a natural, unspoilt paradise of volcanic origin, with its landscape ranging from rugged mountains to low plateaus with coastal terraces and offshore coral reefs, although the majority of the islands are rainforests.

While 75% of the population lives in rural areas, the urban centres of Luganville and Port-Vila on the largest island, Espiritu Santo, are becoming more popular.

Vanuatu is recognised as one of the best places worldwide for scuba divers, offering incredible reefs and tropical beaches. It is also easy to hop from island to island here. Vanuatu offers a peaceful and happy way of life with the local population proving chilled, friendly and happy and the cost of real estate and living low.

Vanuatu’s citizenship by investment program has not been without its controversies, and rapid growth in the past couple of years has led to a proliferation of agents in the market seeking to benefit from Vanuatu’s growing popularity. This has created inconsistencies in pricing and an uneven distribution of the program in terms of service quality.

This is one area that VIMB is working hard to address in cooperation with the Vanuatu Citizenship Commission. With the DSP being such a vital revenue generator for the country, it is imperative that a credible and sustainable program is maintained.

“Market pricing is set by the Vanuatu Government and should be level and constant,” says Elcocke-Harris. “The only authority on pricing is Government Designated Agents such as ourselves, and we would urge would-be citizens to steer clear of any apparent ‘deals’ – which carry risk to the applicant. We would suggest always checking with VIMB to verify the source of any prices or offers received.”

However, it is not only in the management and distribution of the DSP that VIMB has involvement. There



is a duty to provide ongoing support to DSP citizens with post-citizenship and consular-type services.

“Not only do we need to ensure the DSP structure and processes are up to expected global standards,” comments Aguis, “but there is also the need to constantly review and check that DSP citizens are properly supported and valued – they are a tremendous potential asset to the country and we have to do everything possible to engage their economic and investment power and direct their focus where practicable, to Vanuatu.”

In support of this, various add-on programs are being developed, such as the Vanuatu Investment Liaison Office (VILO) – a venture aimed specifically at embracing DSP Citizens and encouraging economic engagement

(recognising that they are ‘Ni-Vanuatu’ – ie local, not ‘foreign’ investors).

“We also have domestic stakeholders to consider, in the form of the Ni-Vanuatu electorate - who see the funds being generated, but ask questions about the real value-add of DSP Citizens to the country,” adds Elcocke-Harris. “For this reason, we need to ensure that any PR surrounding the Program plays equally well to both domestic and international audiences, and that benefits are seen and felt in Vanuatu.”

The value of obtaining Vanuatu citizenship is clear – for peace of mind and security today, as well as for future generations to enjoy. Starting at US\$130,000 for a single applicant, rising to US\$180,000 for a family of four, all-inclusive except for a one-time US\$5,000 due diligence fee (covering

all applicants), Vanuatu Citizenship is very affordable given the great range of benefits it offers.

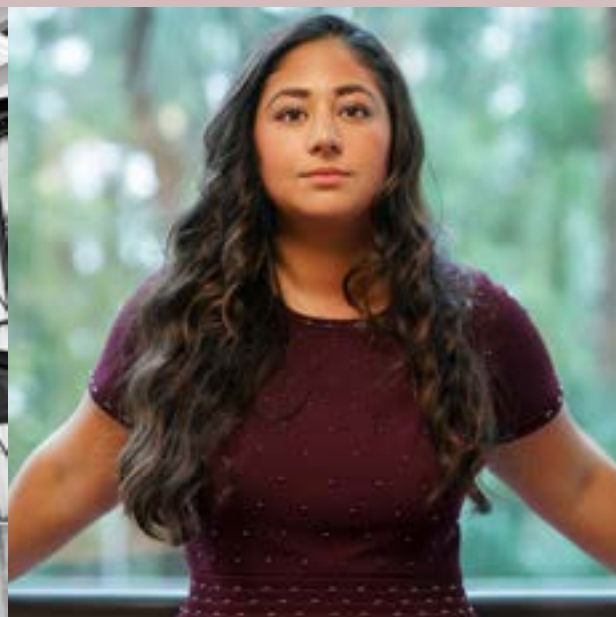
Summing up his personal aims, Elcocke-Harris says: “Ultimately, what we aspire to is to create a valued and respected bracket of Vanuatu DSP passport holders who we can call our own ‘World Class Citizens’ – recognised for their exceptional quality, global mobility and contribution both to Vanuatu, and also Vanuatu’s image and prestige around the world.”

Isn’t it time you Answered the Call of Vanuatu?

For more information about VIMB and Vanuatu citizenship by investment, visit www.vimb.vu, and for investment and corporate services visit www.icount.biz

FLYING WITH CONFIDENCE

AT THE REGISTRY OF ARUBA



P4-ICE an AgustaWestland AW169 | Alexandria Colindres in her Miami office.

SOME ARE BORN WITH WINGS, BUT NOT EVERYONE CAN SOAR. ALEXANDRIA COLINDRES, THE CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER OF THE REGISTRY OF ARUBA, HAS MANAGED THE LATTER. AS ONE OF A GROWING NUMBER OF HIGH-RANKING WOMEN IN BUSINESS, SHE CREDITS HER SUCCESS TO THE SUPPORT SHE'S RECEIVED FROM THE TIGHT-KNIT GROUP OF WOMEN IN THE AVIATION INDUSTRY.

"I can't even begin to tell you how many of my female colleagues took time out of their busy schedules to offer me advice and guidance," she said of her years starting out. Besides the pressures of being a young woman in her male-dominated industry, Colindres already had some very big shoes to fill when she took over as the Registry of Aruba's COO. Colindres' father, Jorge, pioneered the world's first private-public aircraft registry 25 years ago, developing the relationships and expertise needed to put Aruba on the map as a safe, efficient and customer-facing registry. Today, following Jorge's lead, Alexandria brings her own charisma, as well as a background in both art and business, to her father's customers as well as a new generation of aircraft owners and operators.

The Registry of Aruba is rated Category-1 by the FAA, and the Aruba-US Open Skies reciprocity agreement allows Aruban operators up to 7th freedom traffic rights to the USA, allowing them to execute seamless commercial non-scheduled flights. Additionally, every one of the Registry's AOC operators has successfully obtained their Part 129 approvals expeditiously. Similarly, the DCA of Aruba has an

excellent relationship with EASA, and the Registry's last AOC operator to have applied for their TCO approval received it within a mere three weeks.

"Nowadays more and more operators realize the advantages offshore registries can offer, in terms of operational flexibility, quality and speed of service," notes Colindres. "And aircraft are not only registered offshore to minimize taxes. The 'neutral' registration mark offered by an offshore registry can provide global travel with more confidentiality."

"Relationships are the key to all our success."

In fact, there are times when registration with a low-profile flag is necessary for political reasons. Security considerations are critical and will only become more important in the future. Aruba is a jurisdiction with a long history of providing the utmost in client privacy and confidentiality, building the trust VIP clients place in the Registry Aruba. The stand-out, personal service and consistent relationship-building cultivated by Alexandria Colindres has

allowed the Registry of Aruba, which has approval inspectors all over the world, to expand its business far beyond their most obvious markets in the US and Europe, too.

"We are enjoying a great deal of exposure in Asia. I think it was driven by all of the personalized visits we made to a number of aircraft owners there a few years ago. That kind of personalized approach is acknowledged in Asia. Relationships are the key to all our success," she says. Quoting her father's favorite phrase, she adds, "People do business with people they like."

Since those visits, Hong Kong's Sino Jet, as well as Business Aviation Asia, Aegle Aviation, Amber Aviation and Avion Jet Limited have all registered aircraft in Aruba. Aruba has also scrutinized the standards of some countries' maintenance facilities, resulting in agreements with the CAAs of Hong Kong, UAE, Singapore and EASA that allow P4 aircraft to receive service there.

As private aircraft begin to take to the sky again in 2021, the Registry of Aruba wants to use its wings to help their family of clients truly soar.



ALL ABOUT *the Girl*

BOARINI MILANESE



Striking the right balance between fashion and function, the new Corsetto top-handle tote from luxury handbag brand Boarini Milanesi delivers Italian elegance with the practicality of contemporary life. A balance that the Bologna-based brand has become renowned for since its entrance onto the haute handbag red carpet in 2016.

While the structured shape yet significant size of the Corsetto offers a roomy interior featuring an inner pocket, the two handles, perfect in length, deliver the ultimate in versatility, allowing for both shoulder and elbow carrying, and the top foldover flap closure offers privacy and peace of mind.

Realised in the exclusive leather of Aposa calf, including the lining, the Corsetto's unique and refined design features stitching details inspired by 18th century corsets. The unusual colour, Woad Blue, also takes inspiration from Italian heritage.

Rather than splashing its creations with seasonal shades, Boarini Milanesi remains true to its Italian roots, using pigments inspired by Italian artists. Each bag comes in a time-honoured tone that's been used by the Great Masters in their frescoes and paintings (think Veronese, Tiepolo and Caravaggio).

Every handbag is made to order, crafted completely in-house at the brand's Bologna-based workshop and takes 40 hours to craft, with the Maison's expert

craftsmen undertaking every-thing from cutting the leather to final stitching.

As part of its commitment to craftsmanship and quality, Boarini Milanesi has perfected a three-layer construction technique, where each bag's internal structure is made of vegetable-tanned Tuscan leather (used to make saddles) for durability and sustainability, and to ensure resistant leather edges, six coatings of colour is applied (three being the industry standard).

The Corsetto is set with a handcrafted precious or semi-precious gemstone into its Palladium plated metal hardware with Milky Aquamarine details.

Even more unique, the bag is customised, hot-embossed in leather with the carrier's name, using a brass template specifically created for the client. The bag's prestigious wool and cashmere cover is further embossed with the name.

"Every client is unique and special," says co-founder Carolina Boarini, "that is why every Boarini Milanesi handbag is created exclusively for that client".

With its exquisite Italian craftsmanship, classic style, unique identity, and exclusivity, Boarini Milanesi's Corsetto is guaranteed to add an instant hit of long-lasting polish.

www.boarini-milanesi.com





SHISEIDO LAUNCHES BAUM

With the environment, ethical standards and animal rights now a priority for many consumers, shoppers are increasingly looking for products and brands that support their own sustainability and social responsibility values and goals. And brands are responding. Step up Japanese brand Shiseido, one of the world’s oldest cosmetics companies, which has recently unveiled a new and sustainable skincare brand. Enter BAUM, a skincare line that draws its inspiration, function and ingredients from the power of the trees. Like trees, which have the ability to live for hundreds of years and gracefully harmonise with the environment as it changes, the BAUM line of skincare focuses on water storage, growth and environmental defence and supports healthy skin regardless of age or gender.

Formulated from 90 per cent nature-based ingredients, without parabens, silicones or synthetic colourants, the skincare is furthermore blended with mainly tree-derived natural fragrances to soothe and calm. But that’s not all. The skincare line’s packaging also packs a sustainability punch. While the containers are either plant-derived PET or recycled glass bottles, the packaging is made using recycled wood offcuts

from the furniture manufacturing process (courtesy of Karimoku Furniture Inc.), with the skincare company further committing to planting and growing oaks for use in packaging in the BAUM Forest.

The BAUM brand delivers an array of products, including cleansers and face wash in various formulas (an oil, emulsion, cream, foam or gel); a scrub, clay mask, moisturising oil, hand cream, body lotion, eau de cologne and aromatic candle.



MIKIMOTO EAU DE PARFUM

Renowned globally in high jewellery circles for its cultured pearls, Mikimoto has partnered with Scent Beauty, the world’s first multi-brand ecommerce platform for bespoke scents, to capture the beauty and elegance of its pearls in a scent. Enter Mikimoto Eau de Parfum, the jewellery brand’s first-ever fragrance.

Inspired both by the heritage and culture of Japan and the majestic presence of the sea where pearls originate, this unique and timeless scent was expertly crafted by master perfumer Frank Voelkl and fragrance designer Raymond Matts. Both timeless and gender-neutral, the fragrance centres around the seductive floral blend of iris and magnolia.

While the top notes deliver a subtle scent of the cool sea breeze blend with fresh citrus notes, such as grapefruit, Sicilian lemon and bergamot, the middle notes are a floral blend of iris and magnolia, and the base notes pair aromatic, woody scents with saffron to create a lasting impression of depth.

Housed in a minimalist and sleek bottle that speaks of the allure of pearls with its pearly lustre and curvaceous body, the bottle is a piece of art in itself.

“At Mikimoto, every piece of jewellery celebrates the beauty that exists in the smallest details, and Mikimoto Eau de Parfum embodies the brand’s spirit of excellence,” says Yasuhiko Hashimoto, director and executive VP of K. Mikimoto and Co and CEO of Mikimoto (US) Co. “The results exude the unmistakable opulence of the Mikimoto brand.”



APPARIS PETA CASHMERE COLLECTION

Who needs real when you can have faux? Renowned for its bold and colourful faux fur coats, vegan fashion brand Apparis has made a move into knitwear with the launch of a vegan cashmere collection in collaboration with PETA. Partnering with PETA on the collection, Apparis will donate 5% of all the collection's proceeds to PETA.

The vegan brand, which is continuing to make strides in its mission to create fashion that is made without harming animals, brings this second luxury fabric to the table, offering the beauty of cashmere, but without the unethical manufacturing practices harmful to animals and the environment. The cashmere delivers the option of cruelty-free knitwear without compromising style or feel.

Comfortable, easy to wash, and chemical-free, the Collection brings Apparis' signature rainbow colours and sophisticated style to ultra-soft everyday basics. These elevated essentials push the boundaries of conventional knitwear, delivering the perfect balance of edginess, timelessness and practicality. Featuring statement silhouettes and a vivid palette of curated autumn shades, from verdant green to bubble pink, this capsule puts a fashion-forward spin on basic knitwear staples. The soft, stretchy vegan fabric is one size fits most and it is ultra-flattering on all body types.

Apparis quickly made a name in the industry for their high quality, high fashion, and cruelty-free outerwear, and with the launch of this new collection, continues its legacy as a multifaceted vegan brand focused on finding new alternatives to animal-based fashion.

Apparis also partnered with PETA earlier this year, donating 100% of their sales on February 14th to PETA.

"The launch of this new product category is a big milestone for us at Apparis; it took us a few years to bring vegan fur to the forefront and we are aiming to do just the same for our vegan knitwear," says co-founder Lauren Nouchi.

Apparis is now available at over 500 stores in the US and in 20 countries, and recently expanded to include vegan leather, accessories, and homeware.

www.apparis.com



MALONE SOULIERS

Renowned for its unmistakably feminine footwear that's been worn by everyone from Beyonce to Blake Lively, bold British shoe brand Malone Souliers has unveiled its latest collection for Autumn/Winter 2020.

Tapping into the continued success the brand has had with its collaborations, Malone Souliers unveils its latest collaboration with Deveaux New York, a US fashion brand that's known for its androgynous and effortless chic style.

Combining Malone Souliers' fine craftsmanship, exquisite materials and unwavering attention to detail with Deveaux New York's streetwear fashion expertise, this unique partnership delivers a collection of footwear to complement the brand's ready-to-wear.

Designed to complement and further enhance Deveaux New York's elegantly understated ready-to-wear collection which comes in muted hues and tonal

contrasts and meticulously handcrafted using only the finest materials that Malone Souliers is known for, the new shoe styles include two mules and a boot.

While Toni is a flat slipper crafted in fine mesh and features an almost cage-like detail at the front and a low topline, the 45mm mule Tavi comes with a high topline and the same cross strapped feature on the front. The fine details of the straps and mesh alongside the simple kitten heel balance the footwear, placing them at the forefront of minimalist elegance. The colour palette consists of nude and black, with mesh and leather melting into one another in these uniquely refine pieces.

The collection is completed by Tatum, a crepe sole front-zipped boot that mixes unique rubberised leather with satin. This unusual material combination, along with the rounded structure, delivers a very contemporary piece.

Available in black, olive and beige, the colours provide a nod to the previous collaboration.

Now in its sixth year of operation, and having achieved cult status, the unapologetically feminine footwear brand has garnered a global reputation for beautifully crafted collections in the finest skins and materials and in a vivid palette of colourways. With a focus on enhancing the beauty of the female foot, Malone Souliers utilises age-old techniques while embodying a sophisticated yet playful approach, defined by its 'designed in London, crafted in Italy' label.

Of the latest collaboration, Malone Souliers' founder and creative director Mary Alice Malone says, "I absolutely love Deveaux's approach to fashion and their sensibility towards product is totally aligned with mine".

www.malonesouliers.com





Synonymous with the finest quality 100% pure cashmere jumpers and other timeless wardrobe favourites, British brand Cashmere & Cotton offers luxury long-lasting clothes and accessories made from two of the world's best natural fibres, cashmere or cotton.

The brand, which has sustainability at its heart, only uses the finest and the longest of yarns, which are sourced directly from Inner Mongolian farms where the welfare of the animals comes first, resulting in cashmere that is softer, stronger and will last longer. And due to the way the yarn is knitted, the brand's cashmere pieces remain in the best shape making them forever pieces.

Embracing colour, the brand offers a large choice of shades, from cosy earthy tones to pops of zesty hues, with only sustainable dyes used, meaning pieces are not just kinder to the environment but they also softer to touch.

Among its cashmere offerings are jumpers in various styles, the brand's signature cashmere scarves, as well as wraps, cardigans, ponchos and even nightwear and socks. The designs are anything, but traditional and all fine knitwear collections are designed with layering with crisp cotton shirts in mind. Like its cashmere, the brand's crisp 100% cotton shirts are made from the finest cotton yarns and come in a variety of styles from oversized to one with a bow.

Recently unveiled, the Autumn/Winter 2020 collection features new styles, including a cowl neck jumper that boasts a relaxed neckline and boxy oversized shape to suite all body shapes, and a soft rib jumper with high side splits, making it perfect for layering.

Shearling is the latest material to be brought into the brand's fold, with a collection of 100% shearling jackets and coats. With a focus on sustainability, the winter coats are reversible and are made using the by-product from the farming industry, so ethically produced.

www.cashmereandcotton.co.uk





theRegistryofAruba.com

SAFETY SPEED SERVICE

**CELEBRATING 25 YEARS
OF SERVICE EXCELLENCE**

Since its inception in 1995, the Registry has built a reputation for impeccable safety, unmatched speed, and concierge-style service.

Safety has always been our top priority. Aruba's FAA Category-1 rating and ICAO compliant regulations assures for worldwide trust for P4 registered aircraft. Thanks to our network of qualified inspectors across the world, we are the only offshore aircraft registry to service registration and renewal requests in less than 48 hours. Our staff has a reputation for concierge-style customer service that is on-call daily to care for the most urgent and challenging requests.

For 25 years, we've built our reputation on service excellence.
Helping you fly since 1995.



The Registry of Aruba

An aerial photograph of a tropical resort. In the center-left, there are several buildings with large, conical thatched roofs. A heart-shaped swimming pool is situated in front of one of the buildings. To the right, there is a sandy area with palm trees and a small circular platform with a thatched roof. The background is filled with dense palm trees.

BAREFOOT LUXURY

Escape the world and discover freedom at Nay Palad Hideaway – where the concept of bare-foot luxury was born



There are few places on the planet where we would rather be than Nay Palad Hideaway – the pioneer of the Barefoot Luxury travel movement and an exclusive retreat where you really do feel a world away.

With just 10 superb villas overlooking the white sand beach and private Pacific Ocean bay, and bespoke, personalised services, Nay Palad Hideaway feels very much like your own private paradise.

Located on the southeastern tip of the island of Siargao in the fabulous

Philippines, the hideaway is nestled between the Pacific and ancient mangrove forests. Sometimes described as the island at the end of the world, Siargao is a nature lover's dream, perched at the very edge of Asia.

Remote, untouched and undiscovered are buzzwords in luxury travel right now as the world faces up to the pandemic. In that regard, Nay Palad Hideaway scores highly.

Talking of scores, this refined retreat has former Bayern Munich goalkeeper

Bobby Dekeyser as its founder, and the man behind its ethos and barefoot philosophy.

Dekeyser discovered the Philippines while establishing his highly successful outdoor furniture brand DEDON, and Nay Palad Hideaway (formerly known as Dedon Island Resort) was born as a luxury destination in 2012.

“Barefoot luxury is a philosophy of travel our family has been dreaming of and Nay Palad Hideaway is our way of sharing it with you,” explains Bobby.



“It begins when we welcome you at the airport. As our custom-made jeepney, a lounge on wheels, whisks you and your companions across the isle, past jungles and villages of easy-going people, always ready with a smile, you begin to sense what our family discovered a long time ago: This is a place like no other.

“Passing through the gates of Nay Palad Hideaway, you leave the real world behind. Welcome to the barefoot state of mind. There's no need for a wallet here. No checks are signed. From now on, every delicacy you desire, every drink you fancy, every massage you need, every adventure you seek, is yours for the asking. There's just one thing we ask in return: Treat this palm-fringed paradise as your home, and let us make your dreams come true.”

SUSTAINABLE BY DESIGN

Tropical jungles, underground caves, coral reefs, secluded beaches, legendary deep-sea fishing and some of the world's best surfing are just a few of Siargao's



charms. And that's before we even get to the superlatives surrounding the resort itself, and its fabulous villas.

Created with celebrated designers Jean-Marie Massaud and Daniel Pouzet, Nay Palad Hideaway is an oasis of sustainable luxury, where local traditions and timeless beauty combine with

the highest contemporary standards of comfort, sustainability and social responsibility.

From the beauty of its architecture to the lushness and privacy of its setting, the Perlah Villa is not only unique in this world – it's a world unto itself. Complete with its own secluded beach, private



swimming pool, treehouse lounge, cabana bar, dining pavilion and more, this is a resort within a resort – or the hideaway at the Hideaway.

Perfect for romantic breaks or family gatherings, the Perlah Villa provides the ultimate in seclusion and the very finest in social distancing. Pass through the private jungle that hides Perlah Villa from view and find yourself confronted by circular glass pavilions topped by soaring conical roofs.

Then cross a wooden bridge over water ponds to reach your ultimate destination. Architect Pouzet likens it to approaching a village on water, which is made even more special after dark.

With breathtaking views out to the ocean and access to the stunning treehouse lounge, the master bedroom of the Perlah Villa has to be one of the finest ‘suites’ we have encountered.

The Hideaway’s infinity pool is the perfect place to chill during the day (especially on one of the new island lounges in the shallow section). Look out across the ocean, or enjoy an evening movie on the giant screen suspended between palm trees. Check out the poolside bar where the resident mixologist infuses unique cocktails with flavours from the island.

When it comes to dinner, resident chef Marc Silvestre aims to surprise by combining the freshest fish, meat and local produce in an eclectic mix of east and west, modern and traditional.

The kitchen works around the freshest catch to create novel versions of national recipes, using local ingredients as much as possible. This extends to working with organic farms for vegetables and herbs, supporting Siargao’s communities in the process.

THE ULTIMATE IN LAIDBACK LUXURY

Nay Palad Hideaway offers a level of service beyond compare, with every request catered to and all included as part of your stay. Their philosophy is very much based on ‘small is beautiful’ and only having 10 villas allows those high standards to be met and maintained.

Whether you’re watching a movie in the pool, sipping an after-massage tea in the spa nest, or joining the chef for a lesson in the kitchen, nature always surrounds you.

This connection to Siargao’s culture and ecosystem influences everything they do. Seamlessly integrated with the environment, the hideaway has been constructed by master Filipino craftsmen using only local materials and the finest modern amenities.





The bath and body products in each villa have been sourced with sustainability in mind – they won't leave a trace on the water table. They work with local farms and fishermen, as well as having their own small vegetable and herbs garden.

A truly unforgettable spa is about more than just world-class treatments. It's about space, ambience, mood. It creates a sense of peace and wellbeing that reaches deeper than any treatment.

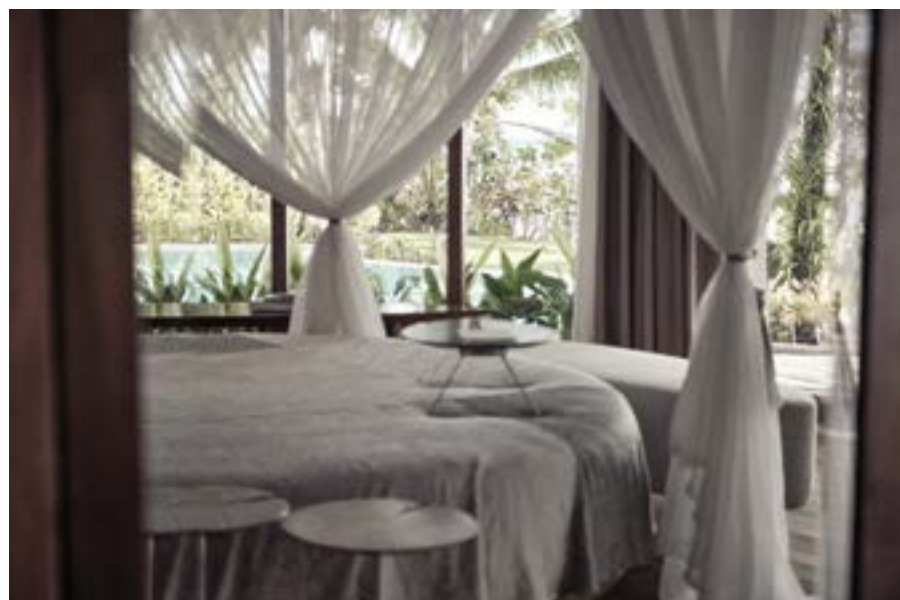
Nay Palad Hideaway's spa therapists use homemade coconut oil to enhance the specialist Hilot massage – a Filipino wellness practice that encourages physical and mental harmony.

The new village spa has been created with experience in mind, and is unlike any other. You simply have to experience it. And when do – when you're sitting there in the treetop nest, sipping your post-treatment tea – you'll know exactly what they mean.

FREEDOM PHILOSOPHY

As their guest, you're invited to make Nay Palad Hideaway your own, so you have the freedom to explore and do whatever you feel, when you want.

Walk into the kitchen and see what's cooking. Or drop by the pool bar and mix yourself a drink. Wander the lush gardens, studying the local flora, or climb the treehouse for birdwatching. This freedom is the essence of barefoot luxury.





To encourage this sense of freedom, Nay Palad Hideaway has created unique, architecturally inspiring spaces. There's the Boathouse – a multifunctional structure that houses a gym, an indoor yoga studio, an indoor kids' area, and an adventure storage room, where guests are free to inspect our equipment and dream up their next island-hopping excursion – perfect in the 37-foot teak-trimmed cruiser that carries the experience of barefoot luxury out to sea.

Of course there are activities for guests to enjoy, should they so wish. During the day, the grassy lawns and white-sand beach are perfect for a friendly game of football (probably best not to challenge the owner to a penalty shoot-out though), cricket, badminton, beach volleyball or pétanque.

On water, there is surfing, sailing, stand-up paddleboarding, snorkelling, diving, kayaking, water-skiing and deep-sea fishing to enjoy and experience.

For beginners, Nay Palad Hideaway offers or arranges lessons with the best instructors. For experts, they facilitate



water-sport outings tailored to your specifications.

In addition to the many outdoor activities, kids will love The Children's Village, complete with trampolines and swings, all inside shaded huts. There is also a new treehouse platform with lounges and slides down to the sandy play area.

Nay Palad Hideaway keeps things simple so guests can focus on doing the things they love. Whatever your pleasure, it's covered by the all-inclusive nightly rate.

You'll never have to even consider costs of food, drinks, spa treatments, yoga and wellness, island-hopping, adventure excursions, surf lessons, stand-up paddle boards, kayaks, airport transfers, or even the use of one of the three boats – complete with captain and crew. There can't be many luxury destinations that go so far to please their guests.

Experience the ultimate unique getaway, at Nay Palad Hideaway.

www.naypaladhideaway.com



HOW TO GET THERE

To reach Nay Palad Hideaway, guests can catch a direct flight to the Manila or Cebu international airports in the Philippines. From these airports there are at least seven flights per day to Siargao's own Sayak Domestic Airport (IAO). At Sayak, the guest relations team will be waiting to welcome your party and transport you directly to the hideaway, a 40-minute ride in our custom jeepney. Private air charter can also be arranged from Cebu to Sayak or a private helicopter from Cebu to the hideaway.



NEW KIND OF PRECIOUS

SAPPHIRES INSPIRED THIS
NEW COLLABORATIVE
COLLECTION BETWEEN
GUBELIN JEWELLERY AND
FASHION HOUSE AKRIS

It was a journey to Sri Lanka, aka the 'island of gems', and the delicate pink and orange tones of the rare padparadscha sapphires that are mined there that served as the inspiration behind a new collaborative collection between Gubelin Jewellery and fashion house Akris.

While a deep interest in the inner life of this rare precious gem, the padparadscha sapphire, has brought these two high-end Swiss brands together, it is the shared brand values of tradition and innovation, combined with artisanship and elegant design that has resulted in a stunning capsule collection of floral jewellery, Lily Dew, and the 2020 Collectors' Scarf.

With more than a century of gemstone expertise and high-end jewellery creation under its artisanal belt, Gubelin Jewellery is renowned for its creations based on the fantastic colours, shapes and structures found deep within coloured gems, features that arise when the precious gems are formed over millions of years deep within the Earth, and it is this philosophy the jewellery brand is known for sharing with partners.

"Sharing knowledge and inspiration is part of the DNA of our family-owned company," says Raphael Gubelin, president of Gubelin, pointing to this latest collaboration, which marks the first time the jewellery house has shared valuable insights into the inner life of a precious gem with Akris.





While Akris is known for drawing inspiration for its fashion designs from art, architecture and nature, based its designs on photographs, which are then translated into sophisticated clothing and accessories, more recently the Swiss fashion house has become interested in the makeup of gemstones.

For this year's Collectors' Scarf, Akris drew inspiration from a photo taken under a micro-scope, which portrayed the magical inner life of a padparadscha sapphire, the photo providing deep insights and revealing new facets of a precious gem.

Made of pure silk, the delicate, flowing material is printed with the gem's characteristic pink-orange coloured structures and come in three variations, a narrow silk band to be worn in the hair or as a belt, a classic-sized scarf and a generously sized version.

Also taking inspiration from the deep insights offered by the inner workings of the pad-paradscha sapphire, Gubelin Jewellery has expanded its Aurora World with the unveiling of the Lily Dew collection. Directly inspired by the photomicrography of an impressive pad-paradscha from Sri Lanka, Gubelin designers were reminded of delicate drops of dew on a lily.

Enter Lily Dew, a collection characterised by cabochon-cut coloured gems, one of the very first known cuts, which, with its rounded shapes and subtle play of light, is reminiscent of dew drops shimmering on a lily. These are combined with sparkling brilliant-cut diamonds and are available in a range featuring gems in delicate shades such as pastel-coloured sapphires and morganites as well as stronger gradations such as green tourmalines and amethysts through to elegant blue shades such as sapphires, tanzanites and aquamarines.

Lily Dew comes in three contemporary ring designs, embodying modernity, youthfulness and freshness. While the sculptural version, Flower Bouquet, features three delicate red-and-white-gold blossoms that appear to be growing out of the ring band and extending beyond the finger; the Single Flower features a central blossom and the Petal Ring, an open and curved ring band so it can be combined and stacked. Earrings



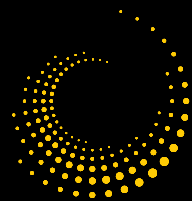
and necklaces complete the look, offering a wealth of possible variations and combinations.

The designs were drawn from the brand archives, heritage designs that have been given a contemporary interpretation – think brilliant-cut diamonds in pave thread outlining the five-petaled blossoms; coloured sapphires or tourmalines, in combination with the iconic ruby, transcending the boundaries of the classical style of the setting, seeming to float and expand the dimensions of the ring. To highlight the gems' radiant shades of blue, they are set in white gold, while red gold harmonises with the warmer colour shades, yet both shades can be combined.

The Lily Dew jewellery collection can be viewed at Gubelin's Boutiques, located in Switzerland and in a Private Salon in Hong Kong, while the Akris – Collectors' Scarf 2020 is available exclusively in Gubelin's Swiss Boutiques, the Zurich Grieder boutique and the Bongenie Grieder boutique in Geneva.

www.gubelin.com

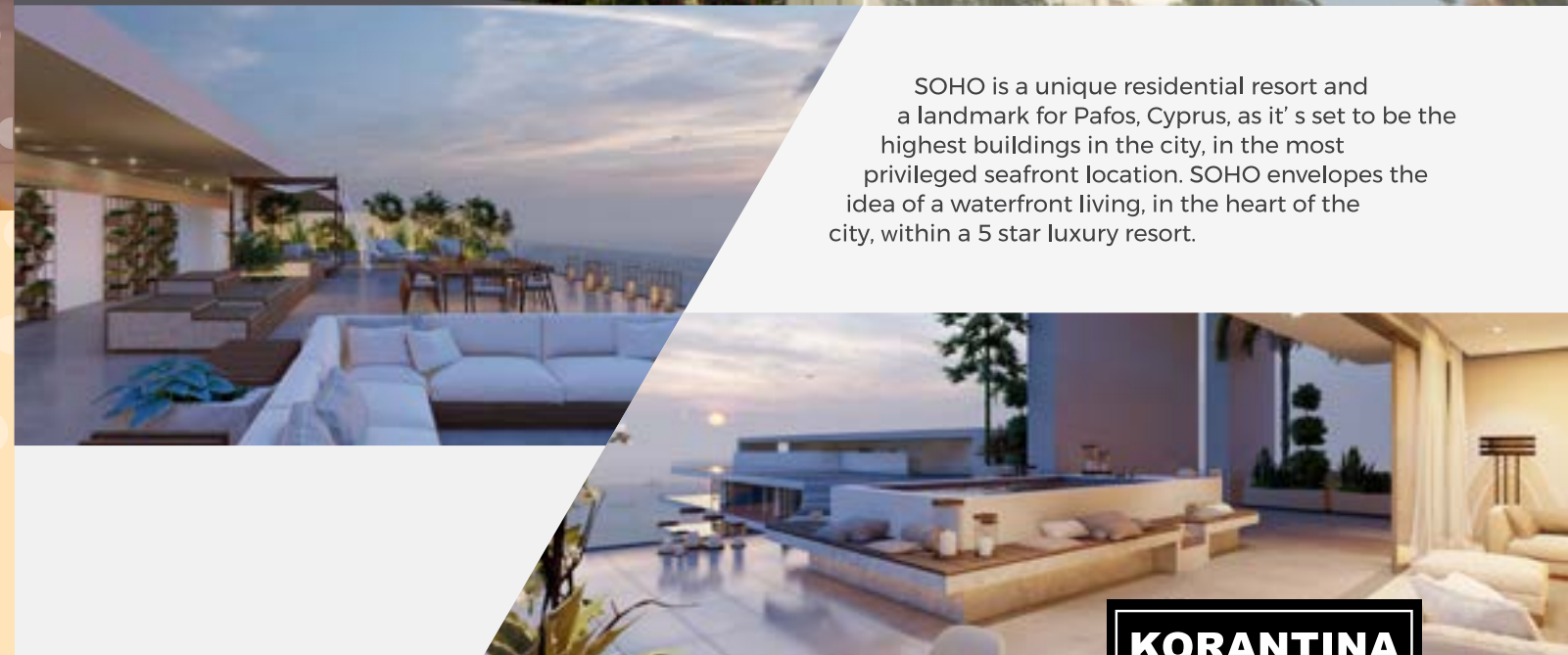




CAP ST GEORGES
BEACH CLUB RESORT



SOHO
RESORT



SOHO is a unique residential resort and a landmark for Pafos, Cyprus, as it's set to be the highest buildings in the city, in the most privileged seafront location. SOHO envelopes the idea of a waterfront living, in the heart of the city, within a 5 star luxury resort.

Cap St Georges Resort, an internationally awarded resort, it is the largest and most exclusive seafront resort in Cyprus and one of the largest residential seafront resorts in the Mediterranean.

It is located in the West coast of Cyprus, in Pafos, with more than 200 luxury villas and a dedicated clubhouse with 24hr reception and concierge services, restaurant, bar, spa, gym,

serviced sandy beach, tennis/ basketball courts, horse riding, children's playground, cycling, limousine service, property management services and more.

A five star hotel is currently under construction in the resort which will enhance even further the facilities of the resort and add further value to the property investment.

**KORANTINA
HOMES**

for more information on the availability of the properties
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**KORANTINA
HOMES**

WEALTH PLANNING IN TIMES OF TURMOIL



Left to its own devices, life will always become less structured. Sand castles get washed away. Weeds overtake gardens. Ancient ruins crumble. Cars begin to rust. People gradually age. The inevitable trend is that things become less organized.

This isn't just common belief, it's science. Known as the Second Law of Thermodynamics, or more simply 'entropy', is a scientific term that describes either a lack of order or an abundance of disorder. It states that, with time, entropy always increases. If disorder is the natural tendency, then order is not by chance, Intellectus create order.

Successful entrepreneurs thrive in periods of disruption and disorder. Intellectus is the Entrepreneur's Advisory.

Intellectus assists entrepreneurs at all stage of their lifecycle to optimize the financial outcomes of their business & financial life. A lifecycle filled with entropy.

For more than 20 years our team has been advising disruptive entrepreneurs in many industries to ideate, create, build scale and exit innovative companies. We are a "Wealth Advisory" shop. We actively partner with our clients in the creation of their wealth. We also relentlessly help them preserve that wealth.

We believe that you cannot separate an Entrepreneur from his or her business. It is one and the same! Thus, in our approach we deliver skills and resources to advise on both sides of that balance

sheet- the Business AND the liquid wealth. If the real wealth is being created from the business and our mandate is to help create and preserve that wealth, then logically, we must have the team to advise on all aspects of the wealth creation. Broadly speaking, the "Wealth Management" world is woefully ill equipped to actually add any value to their client's wealth building process. Intellectus is built around core deep expertise in all of the areas that support wealth creation - led by Business Building, Investment Management, Tax Strategy all wrapped inside of a power Multi Family Office Client Network.

So, what is it that we "do"? Intellectus advises Entrepreneurs Creating & Preserving Wealth. From ideating, launching, starting, incubating, scaling and growing a business (Creating) to intelligently and methodically optimizing family assets and employing high performance portfolio management. We are experts at Creating & Preserving Wealth. We have experience at identifying markets. We are good at building models and go to market plans. We have an amazing network of successful scientists, entrepreneurs, VC's, Investors, Advisors and C-level execs.

We take away a primary concern and unnecessary distractions for these visionaries so that they can focus on building their vision with the single-mindedness necessary to change the world.

We fix their finances. Optimize their tax planning strategy. Expertly manage their investments and advise them on

Bringing back the old-school Merchant Banking model for the New Age Entrepreneur

their financial and business world. Said differently, we effectively address our client’s Wealth Management, Venture Capital and Business Strategy needs. There is an incredible amount of synergy to this approach to financial advisory and investment management.

We live in a time of great change. Turmoil and disruption is literally everywhere we turn. Who would have thought just 9 months ago that the world would be turned upside down by a global



pandemic? Yet, with this life changing curse, the truth is, not all lives have been turned upside completely down. Those that were steady through the storm and took the time to watch and evaluate the changes that were and are happening at breakneck speed –

as we did at Intellectus – realized that years of change were accelerating into a span of weeks. The weak businesses succumbed, but the ones that were forward thinking prospered.

While we know much changed, one could argue that the pandemic simply accelerated something that was already happening. So, if you as a business owner or investor were focused on that change and had Advisors guiding you through this time, it was in fact an incredible Wealth building opportunity. Maybe the best in a generation. Our research has us more excited about a couple of massive investment opportunities that were unearthed during covid. We think these trends will last years and create massive wealth.

This is the greatest value proposition of Intellectus. We put you in the right position to take advantage of investment opportunities, ideas and strategies that capitalize on entropy and turns it to our and your advantage through thorough research and diligence and thought leading strategies.

In 1968 a small Merchant Banking firm was created in San Francisco called Hambrecht & Quist. It was an innovative idea whereby they focused solely on



a niche market of Silicon Valley based Growth Companies. H&Q as it became known were underwriters of some of the truly epic Silicon Valley firms such as Apple Computer, Genentech, Netscape and Amazon.

They were so successful that they were key cogs in the ultimate development of what “Silicon Valley” became. They built their ethos around some simple cultural concepts, such as team building, non beurocratic- flat organizational structure and change oriented management. They viewed small as nimble and ideas as their bulwark. As a Merchant bank, they used a “hub and spoke” model whereby Investment Banking was their “core” and their “spoke” services including an ever expanding suite that were targeted at only their niche (entrepreneur) client base. Ultimately, they were swallowed up and acquired by JP Morgan for a

then huge sum of \$1.3bb. Then they disappeared.....It’s been almost two decades without an Advisory firm solely focused on this niche until Intellectus launched.

Many of the entrants in the last two decades to the wealth/asset management industry (and some of the largest - particularly those located in hot “tech centers” around the globe) claim to focus on “entrepreneurs” – in contrast to larger, older firms that manage “generational wealth” and retiree portfolios. The reality is, the vast majority of wealth management firms claiming to focus on “entrepreneurs” are focused on managing the wealth of entrepreneurs after they have become wealthy – paying lip service to the source of their wealth post “liquidity” or “monetization.”

If an Advisory firm is truly going to add value, they need the ability to do the work of participating in “building” that value before enjoying the privilege of managing it. As any entrepreneur knows, getting to that “liquidity event” is actually where all the heavy lifting is.

Most of today’s most successful entrepreneurs aren’t that prototypical Hollywood “cinderalla story” of two

MIT drop-outs building “Google” in their garage funded by an over-drawn credit card. Many of today’s leading entrepreneurs striking out on their own and leaving corporate salaries (and unexercised stock options) or senior positions from existing start-ups to do their own. Many are scientists and engineers suddenly swapping their corporate titles to “Founder/CEO” – and needing to raise capital and build a company for the very first time. There are tons of advisors swirling around the space... but none focused on the confluence of where and when wealth formation happens.

We are pioneering an entirely new Founder Focused Advisory model. What has evolved since the JP Morgan takeout of H&Q is this:

- Investment banks focus on mid-to-late stage and publicly-traded companies
- Venture capitalists focus on creating wealth for their institutional LPs through preferred investments and Board participation
- Business brokers act as commission-driven agents connecting “buyers and sellers”

- but not on working with a company to prepare itself financial and strategically to be a compelling property
- Wealth managers and family offices want to manage the entrepreneurs funds after achieving liquidity

None of the above has any dedicated approach to serving the Entrepreneur or business Founder. At best it is a secondary consideration for them.

Enter San Francisco-based, Intellectus Partners. A firm founded and run by serial entrepreneurs and Wall Street veterans from varying disciplines to advise similar entrepreneurs on the full “life cycle” of their wealth journey.





The Entrepreneurial Lifecycle

Amongst Intellectus' partners are individuals focused on (and will decades-long experience in):

- Portfolio Management & Investment Strategy
- Private-markets including venture capital, private-equity, and alternative investments
- Building businesses and Organizations
- Corporate finance
- Mergers & acquisitions
- Wealth & tax planning

"It's a long relationship..." says Intellectus'

Head of Private Markets & Corporate/ Entrepreneur Advisory, Timothy Ng (a 25-year investment banking veteran of Morgan Stanley, Credit Suisse, Cowen & Company and Deutsche Bank; as well as a former VC Operating Partner and private company CFO) – "our client base shares similar beginnings but run the gamut of the entrepreneur's wealth cycle... so our wealth advisory clients interested in making VC investments become sources of capital for our clients launching fund raises for growth capital. It is an incredibly synergistic "flywheel."

Moreover, Intellectus client base is an integral part of its "network" for not only capital, but domain specific and subject-matter expertise in evaluating both internally generated and externally sourced investment opportunities.

Above all and most important is that the true entrepreneur is not always building his enterprise simply to make money per se. This is of course, an important consequence of the hard work, but our entrepreneurs do what they do TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE in the world around them....and frankly it is far easier to make that impact after you have the legitimacy, skills and capital than before. Intellectus is here to support you in your mission. In any and every way we can

There is a difference between investment management and Wealth Management. There is an even bigger difference in advising Entrepreneurs and execs in high growth companies and non-entrepreneurs regarding their finances. Most often clients come to Intellectus Partners at or near an exit and expect the firm to just step in and work it's "magic".

We can certainly help and add value at that point but wealth management for those in an entrepreneurial world ideally should line up temporally with

their business lifecycle. When someone comes to us near their exit or IPO they are often limiting their outcomes. They have also reduced the value creation that comes from comprehensive Wealth Advisory to returns on invested capital, or just investment management itself (not bad- but limiting). That is but one component of Wealth Management, not the whole thing, and often not the most impactful.

It is imperative that successful execs and entrepreneurs consider the sheer magnitude of the responsibility of

managing their own large pool of wealth. Managing your wealth is very similar to running a business itself – this is exactly our approach. Organization, process and resources should not be overlooked. In fact, these are the base components of a well thought out plan. Clients should take the time to consult with a properly suited Wealth Management firm as early as possible if they think some form of change may be coming. Aligning yourself with a firm that has broad and diverse group of experts in key domains and partnerships delivering diverse resources such as Family Office Services, Wealth & Tax Planning Independent Custodians, Uncorrelated strategies, investment products and vehicles, research, Trust Services and back office solutions and can integrate all of this into a comprehensive problem solving solution can be invaluable.

When a properly educated client engages a Wealth Management or Multi Family office firm, they do it at the earliest moment possible. One identifiably "right" time to consider this, is that "moment" where you begin to see some change with your enterprise and/or career. Capitalizing on these "Life Events" are very important to optimizing your outcome. It could be related to personal or familial changes in the





person's "life events". It could be when you are considering leaving your existing job or when you plan on launching or joining a newco. At these times there are long term planning considerations that need to be executed along with your new business plan. In fact, how you structure a newco including the corporate structure, method of issuing shares, how your shares are held, tax structures, holding entities and the like all can have an incredibly meaningful impact on your future financial outcome. Each of these require detailed analysis and evaluation of possible strategies in the Wealth plan.

A firm like Intellectus that works only with serial entrepreneurs and builds family offices can provide you valuable insight and ideas to you during this time. Failing to do so is akin to hiring a generalist lawyer to advise you on a complex M&A transaction - specialization is critical. As the serial entrepreneur hopefully goes from one venture to his/her next, the relationship, resources and ongoing dialogue with the trusted advisor produces enormous benefits and

opportunity. It is the only way that the advisory team can truly identify these unique opportunities and how to apply innovative resources for you to capitalize on and achieve your personal financial goals.

As we look upon another new year in 2021, we are all likely to see opportunities and more challenges. Just remember that your partners at Intellectus are here to advise you on how to best maneuver through this maze of risk and opportunity. Be sure to reach out to ask questions and allow Intellectus to help you where we can so that you can seize these opportunities and change your world for the better.

As they say..."here is to the crazies, the misfits and the troublemakers...the only thing you can't do is ignore them, because they change things!"

So, allow us to join you on your journey of Wealth building and changing your world around you. We will do it together. Intellectus and our network of like-minded clients will be there to support you.

For the journey ahead

We believe that the traditional wealth management model is broken. Intellectus changes the paradigm. We help entrepreneurs and successful executives address key issues of creating and preserving self-made wealth, spanning a lifecycle of needs, from formation all the way through impact investing.

Plan your journey now.

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BECAUSE *HE'S* WORTH IT



VESSEL GOLF BAGS

Well-known in the golf industry for supporting disruptive brands and tour professionals with premium golf bags, San Diego-based luxury bag company, Vessel, has unveiled three new golf bags for 2021, each one a nod to the brand's tour-proven performance, and each delivering elevated details, superior functionality and unmatched craftsmanship.

With its patented Rotator Stand System and Self-Adjusting Equilibrium Strap, The Player III full-featured stand bag offers the best carrying experience, while its redesigned top, updated attachment points and padded leather carry handles delivers better balance and improved comfort. There are two top options, 6-way and 14-way, both of which deliver full-length, fully-enclosed, microfibre-lined dividers to efficiently organise golf clubs and both come with a magnetic accessories pocket, side carry pockets, dual magnetic water bottle sleeves and antimicrobial pockets.

For a more elevated riding experience, Vessel's new golf cart bag Lux XV is the business. With its 15-way top divider and 15 full-length dividers, each golf club has its own dedicated space, whilst the 15th slot is generously-sized to house all putter and grip sizes. Smart features like forward-facing pockets and TPR-coated top handles are designed for quick access to golf gear, while the upper, magnetic pocket pod easily snaps over a cart strap providing accessibility to rangefinders, tees, golf balls and golf accessories. Other storage includes insulated, magnetic water bottle sleeves with drainage, an insulated cooler pocket, interior lock pocket. Each Lux XV golf bag includes a neoprene Cart Strap Sleeve to alleviate wear and tear caused by cart straps.

Finally, the Apex is the best of both bag worlds. This premium crossover combines the functionality of a cart bag with the elegance of a staff bag. Intuitive organisation, such as front-facing pockets and dual personal pockets allow for easy-access while using a golf cart or a trolley. Two water bottle sleeves and a thermal-lined cooler pocket ensures that this midsize staff has ample room for hydration. Built to last, the Apex also features a steel ring top, chrome hardware, a front grab handle, leather touchpoints and quilted stitching, making it a real winner.

www.vesselbags.com



PORSCHE DESIGN ACER LAPTOP

The premium glamour of sports car manufacturer Porsche has been extended to the laptop thanks to Porsche Design's recent partnership with Acer. The new Porsche Design Acer Book RS laptop is a high-end notebook that fuses the advanced technological innovations of Acer with the purist and minimalist design philosophy and engineering mindset of Porsche Design.

Following Porsche Design's philosophy of optimising function, the new laptop is a statement in refined computing in which every feature serves a purpose. Just as sleek as Acer's Ultrabook, measuring only 15.99mm thick and weighing just 1.25kg, it however features a unique diamond-cut CNC-machined 3K carbon fibre cover that makes it really stand out from the computing crowd. It's a distinctive touch derived from decades of motorsports designs that value carbon fibre for its lightweight strength and extreme performance and gives the laptop an unmistakable, iconic design.

The two covers are connected by a unibody hinge that slightly elevates the key-board upon opening the notebook, improving cooling and creating a more ergonomic typing experience. Backlit keys provide convenient typing, even at night, and the glass precision touchpad provides multi-gesture support for a more intuitive multitasking experience.

Featuring Intel's 11th Gen Intel Core i7 processors with Intel Iris X3 integrated graphics and up to 16GB RAM, the laptop packs a powerful performance punch. The 14-inch Full HD IPS display touchscreen, which is covered with a layer of Anti-microbial glass, covers 100% of the sRGB colour gamut, ensuring accurate colours for digital media, and is accentuated by ultra-narrow bezels that allow for an immersive 90% screen-to-body ratio. Dual copper heat pipes ensure the device re-mains cool and the impressive battery lasts 17 hours, while also capable of generating four hours of usage with a 30-minute fast charge in a pinch.

Along with the laptop come custom designed accessories. The Porsche Design Acer Travelpack RS includes a mousepad, Bluetooth and wireless mouse, leather carrying pouch and water-repellent notebook sleeve. In the spirit of efficiency, the notebook sleeve's detachable lid has been designed to double as a mousepad.

www.porsche-design.com / www.acer.com



SAMSUNG GALAXY Z FOLD2



For those who enjoy being on the cutting edge of technology, Samsung's third-generation foldable device is the business. Recently landed, this device combines solid design with expert craftsmanship and intuitive new features.

Re-engineered with a sleek, unified design, the new device features Samsung's Ultra Thin Glass on the Main Screen for a premium feel.

While the 6.2-inch Infinity-O Cover Screen provides maximum usability meaning you can check email or look up directions without unfolding, the massive 7.6-inch Main Screen (once unfolded), with minimised bezels and notch-less

Front Camera, immerses you with a 120Hz adaptable refresh rate for smooth scrolling and gameplay.

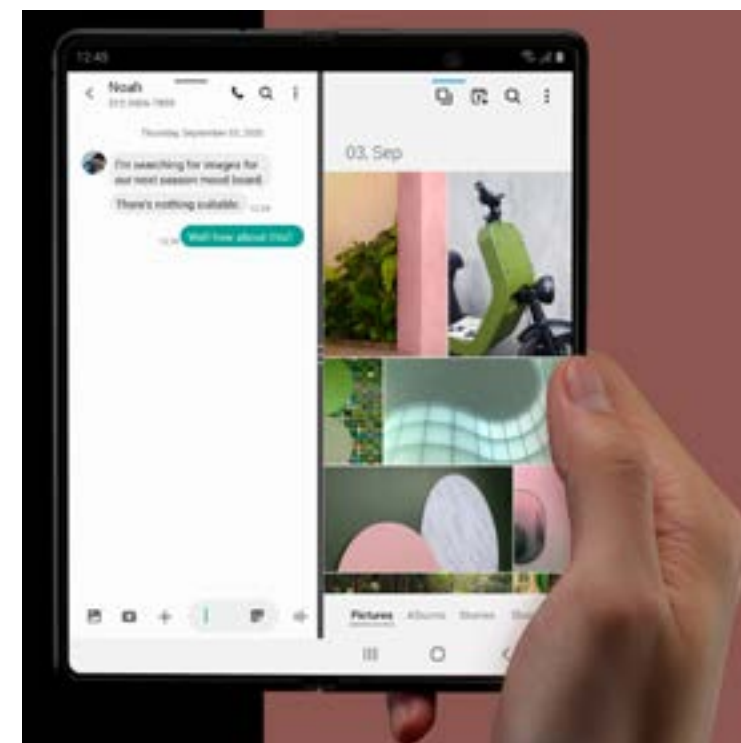
The innovative foldable designs are taken to the next level. The Galaxy Z Fold2 pairs Flex mode with App Continuity to provide expanded usability, crossing the boundary between the Cover and Main Screen.

The device offers plenty of multitasking capabilities too. By using the advanced Multi-Active Window, you can control your screen layout with more ease and flexibility, opening multiple files from the same app and at the same time and viewing them side by side. With drag

and drop, you can drag text, images and documents from one app to another.

Thanks to the phone's full 5G band compatibility, users can access ultra-fast speeds, while the 4,500mAh All Day Battery and Super Fast Charging means you need not worry about battery life.

The device comes in Mystic Black and Mystic Bronze and there are also customisable options utilising an online tool with four distinct Hideaway Hinge metallics – silver, gold, red, blue. And via its collaboration with Thom Browne, the Galaxy Z Fold2 Thom Browne Edition features a geometric stripe creating a visual texture of fabric.



BANG & OLUFSEN BEOPLAY H95

To celebrate 95 years of innovation in sound, design and craftsmanship, Bang & Olufsen set out to create the finest wireless headphones with Danish audio specialist has ever built. Enter the brand's new Beoplay H95, which delivers the highest quality in sound, long-lasting comfort, truly effective noise cancellation, a beautiful chassis, the highest quality materials and the most satisfying user experience in a Bang & Olufsen wireless headphone to date.

Beoplay H95 comes with an oval, over-ear design that fits nicely around the ears and is no bigger than necessary. They feature soft lambskin ear cushions, which are magnetically de-tachable, that provide a luxurious and superior fit for long-term wear, while the adaptive memory foam inner padding, combined with rotating and tilting earpieces ensure the per-fect fit, providing the ultimate in comfortable listening and passive sound cancellation. An innovative and intuitive user interface is provided through a combination of touch control and mechanical dials. The headband design delivers a cleaner look, with top-grain cowhide, custom-knitted textile, and softly padded with memory foam for comfort. A brushed alu-minium framework contrasts with the texture of the leather headband giving a minimalist and refined appearance.

Beoplay H95 is designed around a set of customised 40mm titanium drivers with neodymi-um magnets mounted in ported enclosures, while the sound design is implemented using filters in a proprietary digital signal processing (DSP) engine developed by Bang & Olufsen. The headphones build on its impressive passive noise reduction with the most advanced Active Noise Cancellation



(ANC) of any Bang & Olufsen headphone, which is both adjustable and adaptive. The ANC performance is entirely based on digital processing and uses both a feed-forward and feedback microphone to reduce noise as much as possible.

Bang & Olufsen VP of design Gavin Ivester says: "Home, work and transit can all be dynam-ic environments that demand a response, whether it is to adapt to a new noise level or change your focus for a minute to respond to someone.

Beoplay H95 comes with market-leading battery time with up to 38 hours of playtime in one charge, even with ANC turned on. If you need to keep in touch with work colleagues, four voice microphones give superb clarity when making calls. The headphones use beam forming and advanced noise reduction technology to capture the voice as clearly as possi-ble, while also reducing the influence of background noise. This also includes extensive side-tone processing that gives a more natural feeling of speech. They also come with a user-

adjustable transparency mode to allow the user to hear surroundings without remov-ing the headphones.

Easily transportable, the aluminium mono arms (a B&O signature element) are sculpted with refined surfaces and upgraded with additional pivoting hinges so the headphones fold flat and inwards to a very small size that fits neatly into a compact aluminium-shelled car-rying case.

www.bang-olufsen.com

COACH C001 WATCH

Renowned for its effortless New York style, leading accessories label Coach has pulled out all the styling stops with its new fabulous but functional C001 Watch collection.

Designed for on-the-go lifestyles, the collection fuses fashion, function and utility in an un-expected way. There are six styles to choose from, with a range of versatile options, from rubber straps to stainless steel and ionic-plated bracelets. All pieces are offered with a unique world time analogue-digital movement, removable case-guard and layered dial with touches of iconic Coach colours and patterns.

And fronting the campaign for the new C001 Watch Collection is the oh-so-stylish actor and musician Quincy Brown. Making his debut as global watch ambassador for the house, Quincy brings his unique style and story to the campaign, which was shot by photographer Alessandro Simonetti in New York and conveys Coach's spirit of inclusion, optimism and self-expression.

"Working with Coach has been a dream because it's about so much more than the aesthet-ic," says Quincy Brown. "We're not only aligned on values - they've always allowed me to be the real me. Finding a partnership like that is priceless. I'm so proud to be part of the C001 Watch campaign. In my opinion, time is the most valuable asset in our lives, especial-ly now. We all have the same 24 hours, but it's what you do with it that genuinely defines who you are."





POLARISATION & THE PC QUAGMIRE

We are living in an era of dramatic polarisation, rampant political correctness and a renaissance of public shaming. Healthy discourse has become contaminated with ideological dogmatism. More than ever, a tolerant middle ground is needed to replace the mire.

WORDS: Nick Rice

It's no overstatement to say that we are living through bitterly divided times. The radical left and the extreme right, two sides of the same coin, are entrenched in increasingly polarised positions. Nothing new there you might say. But what does seem to distinguish our contemporary epoch is the disappearance of the middle ground and the lost art of respectful debate.

Voice an opinion outside your own echo chamber and in just a few short steps you're likely to encounter hysteria. Try to defend your opinion and you'll quickly be denounced as a fragile snowflake or a raging Nazi. Wondering about how we've arrived at this state of affairs and keen to know if debate was different not so long ago, I talk to one of my dearest friends, who also happens to have first-hand experience with Nazis.

Wilfrid Ludlow Cockbain was born in Merseyside in 1915 and served for almost five years in WWII. Amongst other things, Wilf was a 'desert rat' fighting against Rommel under Montgomery at the Battle of El Alamein and a tank commander throughout the Allied Italian Campaign,

fighting at the Battle of Monte Cassino. Needless to say, he lost many friends and on multiple occasions came within a whisper of paying the ultimate price himself. When I explain to Wilf that the word Nazi is frequently bandied about today when people disagree on contemporary societal issues, he takes an understandably dim view.

"What kind of disagreements are we talking about here?" Wilf asks me on a recent phone call. To distil the two-hour conversation, I explained to him what social media was, how Twitter and Facebook were the predominant platforms alongside the mainstream tabloid media, where most vitriol and venting is unleashed. Stand in defence of the wrong principle or object to some facet of the 'culture war' and that's where you might quickly be labelled a fascist.

Wilf and I moved onto the white-hot topic of political correctness and I gave him some examples of where the misuse of language, whether intentional or inadvertent, has had swift and dramatic consequences. Wilf is a big football fan

and so the recent resignation of Greg Clarke as Chairman of the Football Association, ostensibly for saying "coloured footballers" rather than "footballers of colour" surprised him. Given that there was no demonstrable malice in the mistake, nothing implicitly contemptuous in getting his words the wrong way around, he thought the pressure to resign seemed excessive.

However, after discussing how, in such a position, he really ought to be *au fait* with the correct language concerning race, and that to root out racism in football it must be confronted at every structural level, his view balanced out. With an outcry from some members of the public who felt Clarke's resignation was disproportionate with the infraction, whilst others recognise exactly why his position was untenable, it's clear to see how fraught these issues can be.

"Fawlty Towers was also temporarily banned by the BBC as well. The 'don't mention the war' episode, due to racial slurs by the senile old Major. And *Gone with the Wind* has also been taken off certain broadcasting stations." I tell



The author with Wilfrid Cockbain, now 105 years old

*“Wilf is not a man who
barbours prejudices.
I’m convinced a great
deal of bis longevity is
borne not only of great
genetics but also out
of bis love for fellow
sentient beings and bis
boundless gratitude
and compassion.”*

him. We’d watched Gone with the Wind together last New Year’s Eve and so that was coincidentally fresh in his mind.

In the silence, my mind conjures up his face clearly... I can see him holding the phone, a blank expression, cogs turning. I also tell him about the furore surrounding the new Sainsbury’s TV commercial, explaining that because it features a black family preparing for Christmas, some pockets of people have been boycotting the supermarket and saying things like “you may as well change your name to Blackbury’s”. I can see his face twitch in disapproval.

“And do you know who Harry Potter is? Yes, well, the writer, JK Rowling, has been under intense criticism because, although she clearly states that she doesn’t discriminate against trans women, she maintains her view that our private parts are relevant in defining gender.”

Silence. I’m assuming he gets it, he’s just speechless.

I continue and do my best to explain some gender terminology, giving him

basic definitions of non-binary, gender fluid, gender neutral, genderqueer and cisgender, finally adding that you can be all, none of, or a combination of them.

Tumbleweed. I’m not sure he got all of that completely.

It’s a lot to absorb. And it’s not only rare centenarians like Wilf but also a great swathe of ordinary people who can be left floundering when it comes to identity politics. There’s a very real sense of walking on eggshells so as not to unwittingly offend.

Wilf is not a man who harbours prejudices. I’m convinced a great deal of his longevity is borne not only of great genetics but also out of his love for fellow sentient beings and his boundless gratitude and compassion. You’d be hard pressed to meet anyone with a more “live and let live” attitude than him. He may not be up to speed with all the terminology, but I believe he would uphold the respectful treatment of all, regardless of gender, race, or any other denomination. However, the obsession with staying up-to-date with politically correct language use and the vengeful

zeal of the social justice warriors who seek to castigate and ‘cancel’ anyone who falls foul of their rules about what is acceptable, he finds disappointing.

After covering more examples that highlight how language contributes to how polarised relations are between left and right, Wilf sums up saying, “Well... it sounds rather like one side decides what the other side should think, and won’t relent with shouting them down until they do.”

“Yep, in a nutshell Wilf.”

Tolerance should surely be an aim of enlightened society and history has proven that not calling out extremes and prejudices can have dire consequences on opportunities, liberties and rights. In our present climate, the establishment and mainstream media often exacerbate discord and are increasingly untrustworthy and part of the problem. While Twitter, Facebook, Mumsnet and a host of other platforms are like some sort of ideological Wild West.

In our linguistic and semantic society, communication is crucial for the proper



functioning of, quite literally, everything. The question that always arises when confronting issues of identity politics is, where do you draw the line? Should you get to the point where legislation is passed to compel people to use language a certain way? If so, how does that affect the core value of free speech as the foundation of Western civilisation?

It was precisely a conflict about the use of language that impelled Jordan Peterson to international fame in 2016. A clinical psychologist, author, academic and formidable speaker, Peterson came to prominence in his home country of Canada when, in his position as a professor of psychology at the University of Toronto, he became frustrated with demands to use the alternative pronouns “ze” and “zir” instead of “she” and “he.”

He explained at the time that he has nothing against any individual’s gender preferences and on a one-to-one basis he has no problem using their preferred pronoun, but to be compelled to use them in a public sphere was a form of manipulation and he wouldn’t accept that.

“I’ve studied authoritarianism for a very long time – for 40 years – and they’re started by people’s attempts to control the ideological and linguistic territory,” he told the BBC at the time, adding, “There’s no way I’m going to use words made up by people who are doing that – not a chance.”

The dispute involved the Canadian legal system and centred around Bill C-16, which made it an offence to refuse to call someone by their chosen gender pronoun. Peterson contended that this would infringe free speech. Supporters of the bill said that he was advocating prejudice.

Recounting the saga on the British TV programme Daily Politics, Peterson said, “There aren’t hidden motivations that have to do with some arbitrary prejudices against trans people. It’s pure and simply this: There’s never been a time in English common law history where the government compelled speech and the Canadian government dared to do that. And that was unacceptable, and they masked it with this show of compassion for the oppressed.”

Peterson emphasised that he believes people should be treated with respect and dignity regardless of what gender category they choose, but this was a different issue. His stance had cultural and political reverberations all over the world and he now holds the rare mantle of being an academic superstar, with millions of fans attending his talks, buying his books and watching his YouTube videos, which cover amongst other topics, philosophy, politics, feminism, religion and “cancel culture” – a modern form of ostracism whereby people are cast out of social and professional circles on social media and in the real world, or both. Those subject to this ostracism are said to be “cancelled.”

It’s not been an easy ascendancy for Peterson though and he’s had to endure vitriolic abuse from the left, who repeatedly attempt to label him as part of the alt right movement, a claim he laughs off as preposterous. If Peterson is right wing, then for all those who consider themselves moderate and centrist, there must have been an unearthly shift to the left when no one was looking. Peterson refutes being right wing and sees it as



a lazy or tactical accusation from the radical left so that they don't have to deal with him.

In the same year that saw Peterson's conflict in Canada send his career stratospheric, we also saw the emergence of two phenomena that can much more fairly be described as right wing. In 2016, the UK's European Union membership referendum resulted in 51.9% of the votes cast being in favour of leaving the EU. In the same year in the USA, Donald Trump was elected president.

These two events have contributed immeasurably to the starkly polarised era we're living in. On both sides of the Atlantic, these shock wins cracked open a yawning chasm that has only expanded over the last four and a half years. Families have been bitterly divided, friendships binned, and across society at large, the middle ground – a once expansive space where people could agree to disagree, even shake hands, be civil and maybe even have a conciliatory drink together – has diminished into a dangerous no man's land, an uninhabitable icy tundra.

“Abandoning the desire to be always right is not going to trigger some kind of personal instability or shatter identities. People who trust their beliefs and accept that they can only follow what is right for them, do not need to prove their points to others.”

What has happened to the spirit of Voltaire, as encapsulated in the phrase, “I disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it.”

Today, the sentiment has mutated to, “I disapprove of what you say, and I will defile you until your death if you say it.”

The elegant phrase that is widely misattributed to Voltaire, the pen name of François-Marie Arouet who died in 1778, stems from an event which has a distinct commonality with today's cancel culture. The quote is actually attributable to a biographer of Voltaire, the English author and historian Evelyn Beatrice Hall.

In the 1906 book, *The Friends of Voltaire* by S. G. Tallentyre (Hall's pseudonym) she describes an incident involving the French philosopher Claude-Adrien Helvétius. The Parliament of Paris and the Sorbonne had condemned Helvétius' philosophical magnum opus, *De l'esprit* (On the Mind) and the book was publicly burned.

Whilst Voltaire was unimpressed with the work, he considered the extreme censorship unjustified and said, “What a fuss about an omelette! How abominably unjust to persecute a man for such an airy trifle as that!”

The more enduring phrase concerning

the defence of free speech was Hall's conception of Voltaire's internal mental attitude and not his actual spoken words. That book burning echoes the current cancel culture. If writing today, during the Great Awakening that we are witnessing, Helvétius might have been vilified and publicly shamed online, cancelled, his work denigrated and a dark shroud of ostracisation forced upon him.

Today it's simply a different form of incineration. Considering all the suicides, upended careers, tarnished reputations, litigation and all round misery sparked by cancel culture, it certainly doesn't seem like any progress has been made. We still haven't learned to respectfully disagree.

Behind this fog of polarisation is existential fear. One side is desperate to be recognised, one wants to protect and preserve their own identity, another is rudderless and looking for some stability. Fear is an insidious and pervasive emotion, and when it's harnessed in the pursuit of any agenda, be it left or right wing in nature, it's frighteningly effective.

Tribalism is on the rise as people seek security and segregate themselves into political, racial or gender based communities. These divisions are a breeding ground for differences of opinion and perspective. But this idea that we can't be friends with people we don't agree with needs to be intensely scrutinised.

People whose views we find abhorrent should not be silenced. There should be a space for debate, in which the flaws in any arguments can come to the fore. I don't consider myself to be anything even close to right leaning or conservative, but I wholeheartedly agree with the British conservative author and right-wing political commentator Douglas Murray, when he writes in his 2019 book, *The Madness of Crowds: Gender, Race and Identity*, “Disagreement is not oppression. Argument is not assault. Words – even provocative or repugnant ones – are not violence. The answer to speech we do not like is more speech.”

We need to talk more, and in a dignified manner. We need to control political correctness, which left untrammelled is like the ghost at a feast. Between the bilious and mean-spirited poison spilling



out of the mouths of people like Katie Hopkins, and the demented PC virtue signalling of Titania McGrath, a character so close to reality that you could be forgiven for not realising that she's a Twitter spoof of a woke social justice warrior created by comedian Andrew Doyle, there has to be established some middle ground. And if we're going to promote more tolerance in dispute, we need to relinquish the febrile desire to always be inarguably right.

As Albert Camus said, “The need to be right is a sign of a vulgar mind.”

It may sound like a liberal bromide, but people could try being kind over being right sometimes. Where's the use in being always at each other's throats? It's a lose/lose scenario. If there's conflict then there's usually always present the desire to be right, which kicks in like a survival mechanism used to manage uncertainty. But all too often people mistake their arguments for who they are, confusing ideas with identity.

If people could pause and observe for a moment, consider the idea that the truth is not absolute, it's relative, then the burning desire to be right loses its grip. To live by any absolute truth would be a falsehood. Trying to make others live by your truth is even worse.

Abandoning the desire to be always right is not going to trigger some kind of

personal instability or shatter identities. People who trust their beliefs and accept that they can only follow what is right for them, do not need to prove their points to others.

Polarisation has clear detrimental effects on our capacity to show compassion and on our emotional health. We'd all be doing ourselves a favour if we left our echo chambers on a regular basis and exposed ourselves to other people's beliefs. You don't have to agree with anything, but at least there will be a gain in understanding where others are coming from. Drop the idea that the other side are evil or insane and be open to a wider range of perspectives and relationships which just might, as a side effect, enhance a sense of wonder about the world.

At the end of my call with Wilf I joke that always trying to be right is about as much use as a corned beef bayonet. That tickled him. He's drawing on 105 years of experience when he talks about these things, so I pay close heed to what he says.

“Life is all about living with other people. Living is a very hazardous business you know. I just keep going. I just live in a way that helps my fellow beings. I live comfortably with my neighbours. If they're not very good neighbours, I treat them just the same. I try to be a good neighbour. That's my religion.”

277 ST. PIERRE ROAD

BEL AIR

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8 bedrooms | 20 bathrooms

36,000 SF on 1.1 acre lot

A regal compound, just moments through the prized Bel Air east gate. This is a residence of sophistication and incomparable opulence. Concealed behind private gates on a rare flat acre parcel, it is a world apart – a guarded, gated compound where every comfort and luxury has been accounted for and no expense has been spared. From the vaulted entry, with its high windows and sweeping staircase, to the lavish wine cellar, this is truly a resort oasis providing the perfect environment for lavish entertainment and exceedingly gracious living. On the lower level the majesty of this home reveals itself, opening to the approx. 20,000 square foot entertainment space that includes a resplendent indoor full resort spa and pool, with massage room, sauna and steam bath, game rooms, bowling alley, expansive cinema, full bar, basketball and racquetball court, as well as gracious guest living quarters. The gorgeous grounds include an in-ground swimming pool, attached spa, outdoor kitchen, and dining area. Truly majestic.

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FM ARCHITETTURA
***RAISES
THE BAR***





Co-founded by architect and superyacht interior designer Francesca Muzio in 2010, FM Architettura was born from her extensive work on no less than 112 of the most prestigious superyachts in the world. Her role as Creative Director of the Interior Design Department of the CRN and the Custom Line Ferretti-Group brought her considerable responsibilities, managing projects in over 20 countries.

Today FM Architettura, is based in Ancona in a region of natural beauty and harmony, which is Le Marche. It is here that they enjoy being at the heart of Italian craftsmanship, working with more than 200 local artisans who are the finest in the country for their work with leather, glass, timber, metals and tex-tiles - all elements incorporated in the interior design projects and custom furniture, be it for a yacht, a villa, a hotel, a car or a private jet.

To showcase the wide spectrum of their work, the newest FM space brings all the design elements, materials and finishes under one roof, namely at the all-new FM Home concept recently opened in the heart of Milan's design district, Brera. It is a space Francesca can call her home, and it sits next to the Pinacoteca di Brera and its inspirational Brera Botanical Gardens. This is where the magic happens and where the gardens start taking shape in her mind for her yacht designs. Medicinal plants, herbs, flowers, ferns, horsetails and club-mosses – everything is considered for the new green spaces she is creating within suites, public spaces and terraces.

FM Architettura is a world leader in the field of interior design, dedicated to continually raising the bar of their superb creative interiors' projects. The studio has built its globally-recognised and well-deserved reputation since 2010 by ensuring each project undertaken

encapsulates the beauty of Italian craftsmanship, and the functionality of a well-designed space, while representing the quintessence of each client's brief.

From the very start of FM Architettura, the scope and size of the project-work undertaken has got progressively bigger. The studio has worked on many a prestigious collaborations, making them renowned for their interior designs for super-yachts, private mansions, high-end residential towers and iconic luxury hotels. Each project is managed with the same high standard of care and attention in every detail, a signature for which FM Architettura has become universally recognized, and a standard of work and privacy for which clients seek her out.

Effortless elegance, authenticity, comfort, craftsmanship, harmony and the very best quality - these are just some of the key pillars that make FM masters of bespoke interiors.



YACHTS ON THE HORIZON

Private clients seek them out for their prized penthouses, and super-yachts. On the horizon, the studio's most recent project is the interior design development for M/Y NJORD, the largest private residential super-yacht in the world measuring 282mt, with a planned delivery date of 2024. Working in conjunction with NJORD's developers, Ocean Residences Development, FM Architettura is creating dreamscape interiors that perfectly fit the ocean setting, enabling the residents of the 118 apartments onboard to really feel like they are home, while traveling the world.

Designing and developing residences at sea is second nature to Francesca and her talented design team. Current super-yacht projects have included the Feadship 90m in conjunction with Nauta Design, the 65m dream yacht Freedom where a new formulaic concept has come into play, to compose your own setting in the yacht, and the 55mt for Feadship, the 52meters of Amore Mio (built by Abeking & Rasmussen), the 63m Polar Star (built by Lurssen), and the 63m super-yacht Oasis (built by Lurssen), the latter having been nominated for Boat International's World Superyacht Awards for 2020.



BACK ON DRY LAND

FM Architettura's work will no doubt also be familiar to those who frequent London's luxury hotel the Shangri-La Hotel, At The Shard, London. The firm is behind the interiors of the property's whispering elegance, where they employed an impressive design vocabulary across the hotel's exquisite suites, which open out onto the most incredible vistas over London's skyline. Every piece of furniture throughout the suites and presidential suites was drawn and developed for every single space. It was of paramount importance to keep as much view open as possible on the London skyline. Sofas were positioned not to take up the view, and desks and fixtures were designed to fit into spaces without interrupting the vista. Every suite a different shape planned and developed individually.

Beyond the London setting, the design team also work the world over, on leading Hotels & Spas of the Shangri-La collections in Manila, Shanghai and Nanjing with more projects coming to the fore when 2021 opens its doors on the world.



WHEN IN ROME...

Francesca has also turned her hand to a one of a kind papal residence dating back to the 17th century. As one of the most exquisite places to lay your head in Rome, The Holy Deer City Lodge boasts 8-meter high ceilings, Marmo Rosso Francia doorways and opulent Francesco Allegrini frescoes and a balcony overlooking the quintessentially Italian Piazza Navona. It would truly be a cardinal sin not to share such an exceptional hideaway and see how 300 years later her artisans put history back into today.

Francesca tells the story of heading off into Rome, to track down an artisan who could replicate the "cotto etrusco" the hand cast stone tiles, recreated to fit the style and harmony of the interiors, and other such skills to restore the marbles, cover the walls with velvets and silk and more. Furnishings and furniture were then hand built and created to work in this setting, and at around £8,500 per night you can also enjoy her sublime green marble kitchen and a deep bath surrounded by 300,000 handmade tiles.



TWO PENTHOUSES, ONE DESIGNER

Here a combination of relative values, brought Francesca into one space and then another: two sisters, two identities, two styles. Her designs here for a set of two private penthouse apartments once again show the whispering elegance she wove into the spaces, starting from scratch and bringing in a fusion of Mediterranean modern architecture with traditional Lebanese details into the overall picture. Local manufacturers from the region were drafted in to create intricate design motifs drawing on local design references, and furniture by Gio Ponti and Carlo Scarpa gave the apartment a contemporary cutting edge appeal. Both homes were to be living contemporary spaces, and not feel like museums, so it turned out to be a tailor made brief for Francesca and her team in Le Marche!

AURELIA Vertical Residences, required a suite to represent an entire skyscraper. Enter a world-class resort-style edifice, boasting one of the most iconic addresses in Manila.

Much like Francesca's other projects, she got to play with the skyline views from the apartments and the lush green polo lawns and the Manila Golf Club which lay beyond. A joint venture with the Shang Properties, the two-tower residential



development features extraordinary living spaces and top-line recreational amenities.

Local artisans, designers and leading architects once again gathered to create some of the world's finest work for the 286 bespoke homes over 54 floors, characterised by the Italian concept of "sprezzatura".

The units, ranging from 2 to 3 to 4-bedroom homes are designed to ensure maximum use of space, ensuring full natural light reaches all the parts of the residences. The signature FM Architettura design style for the initial marketing suite and all the residences, was launched with terrific success. The vertical tower project is an Italian take on the culture of the Philippines, characterized by her simplicity of design, effortless elegance and exceptional quality and artistry throughout.

Throughout all these projects and those in the future, Francesca always seeks for her clients to say: "I am my home". She designs for her clients to live, entertain, work and discover the grace and elegance of her craftsmen's unique materials, the handmade furniture and overall her bespoke interiors.





Feathr x Karina Eibatova

With a mission to fill the world with more art and less decoration, interiors brand Feathr roams the world collaborating with contemporary artists to create original wallpaper and fabrics. And with its latest collaboration, with Russian watercolour painter and illustrator Karina Eibatova, the brand has tapped into lush worlds and exotic landscapes.

Karina, whose art brings to life a magical realist world of tropical landscapes, exotic creatures and abstract seascapes, has remixed eight of her meticulously detailed artworks into contemporary and spectacular wallcoverings.

Each of the eight designs in the Feathr x Karina Eibatova collection are customisable to the size and colour palette of a room and available on substrates suitable for both residential and commercial projects.

The collection, says Tom Puukko, founder at Feathr, “will bring so much beauty and pleasure to the homes and spaces they are hung in”.

While Persian Leopard features a finely detailed illustration of

a leopard, set against a rich night blue background with palm fronds and other flora framing the leopard, Jungle Kingdom, Warm Jungle World and Monkeys with Birds all feature Karina’s trademark illustrative style bringing to life tropical flora and fauna and fantastic beasts like pangolins, elephants, lemurs and emus. Muted earth and sage green colour palettes introduce the tropical elements without being overpowering, while details on the birds and animals are picked out in vibrant ochres and cyans. Custom colours can also be created.

Taking inspiration from higher in the jungle canopy, the Birds Birds wallpaper sets the rich and colourful plumage of tropical birds against a backdrop of intricate palm fronds and Flower Obsession takes a single detail from Karina’s artworks - petals, stigma - supersizing and repeating them to stunning effect. Next comes the sea: while The Sparkling Sea wall mural captures the glittering waves of the Aegean Sea, the Sea View In A Single Gradient observes an impressionistic style, and a subtle ombre of blues.

All designs are available for worldwide delivery from www.feathr.com





LASVIT FOR PRIVATE RESIDENCE

LASVIT is a Czech-based designer and manufacturer of bespoke lighting and glass installations and objects. Design pieces from LASVIT inspire owners of private residences or yachts, visitors of institutional and commercial buildings, as well as clients of hotels and cruise ships all over the world. Our tailor-made lighting pieces are entangled with the genius loci of each specific site. They provide not only light, but also emotions, atmospheres and stories.

[Lasvit.com](https://lasvit.com)

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[Lasvit.com](https://lasvit.com)



THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS

MAZU YACHTS 82 CAPTURES THE AMBIENCE
OF A SUPERYACHT WITH THE CONVENIENCE
OF A SMALLER CHASE BOAT



It's easy to forget that Mazu Yachts have been wowing us with their leading-edge designs for less than 10 years. With a solid reputation for producing open and hard-top motor yachts and superior superyacht tenders, the state-of-the-art Turkish facility only produces 10 boats each year – making them to the highest standards and with love and attention to detail.

The new Mazu Yachts 82 is no exception. One of the larger open motor yachts in the market, this stylish and striking vessel features endless outdoor areas as well as interior comfort. Spaces on board give you a feeling of being on a Superyacht but at the same time comes with convenience of an easy operating cruiser.

Built of a lightweight carbon composite, the Mazu 82 combines a clean profile, expansive decks and large hull windows with outstanding performance and handling.





The celebrated Turkish designer Tanju Özelgin created the interior layout and design of the Mazu 82. Working closely with the shipyard, Özelgin optimised the generous volume and large hull windows, combining subtle textures, muted colours, and both direct and indirect light to create a vibe of understated elegance.

The end result is an interior design that perfectly complements the edgy exterior styling of the Mazu 82, designed in-house by the shipyard's founder, Halit Yukay.

"The interior and the exterior should never be defined as two different aspects but should be seen as a whole as one is the extension of the other," says Yukay. "Both should create a coherent unity and reflect the main mood and feelings the designer intended."

The exterior of the 82-footer is characterised by the flush main deck with no steps and the angular lines of the all-glass deckhouse. Wherever possible, the shipyard has used one-piece glass panes.

Three openable 'portholes' at the front of the superstructure provide natural ventilation while under way. With its sliding aluminium roof, custom-made by



OPAC in Italy, the main deck has an airy, loft-like feel.

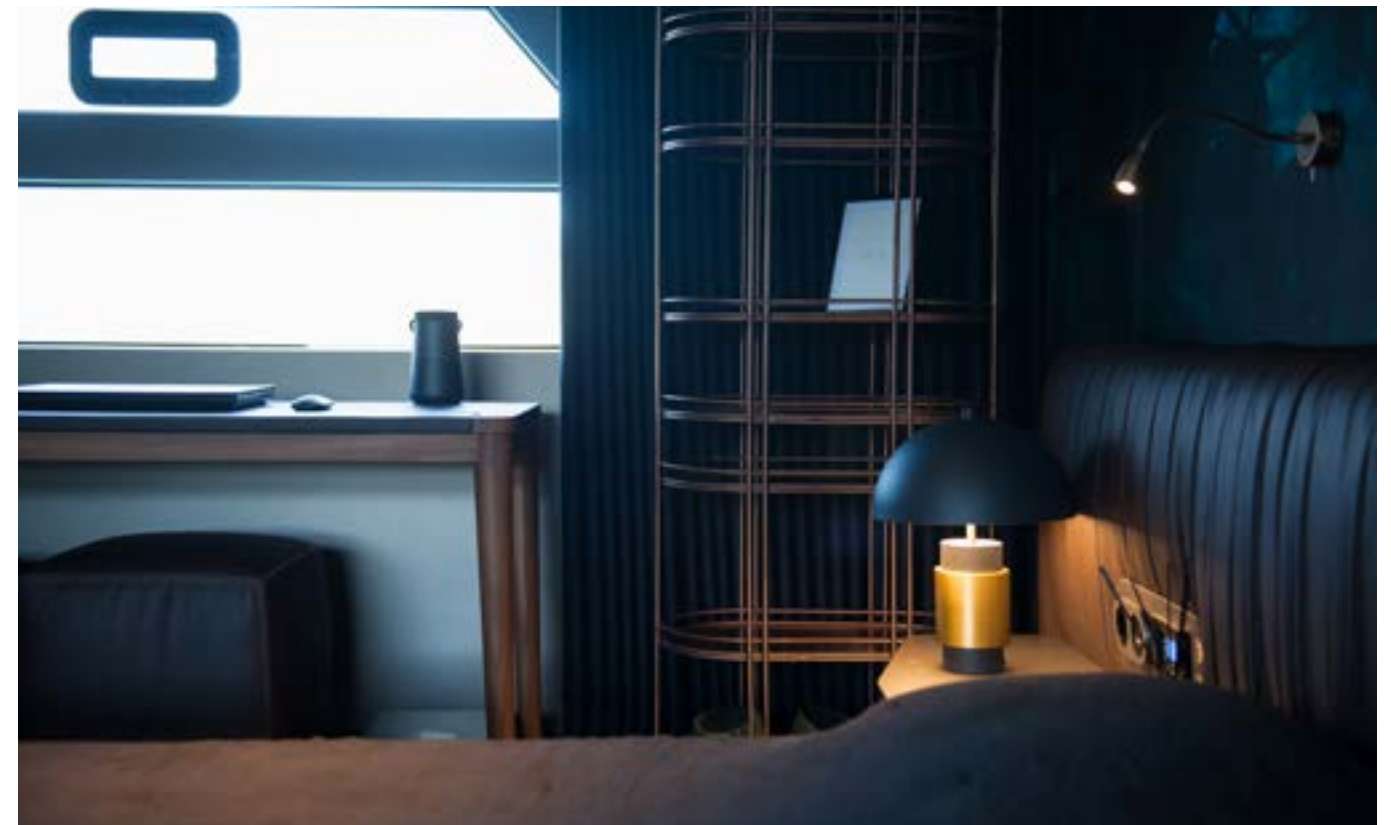
On special request of the owner, Mazu modified the aft deck design to include terraced steps leading down to the swim platform. These steps function as built-in furniture so guests can sit down (they are wide enough to even lie down) and still talk with other guests.

"Multifunctional design was very important for the owner," says Yukay. "In fact, the open foredeck has three

different uses: as a sunbathing area, a dining area for 12 people, and a screen can be set up to turn it into an open-air cinema."

Özelgin is a designer renowned for its ability to transmit meaning in design through subtle and abstract uses of form, symbol and material.

"The main challenge with yacht interiors is that the space mostly never stands still and is constantly surrounded by water," says the Turkish designer, who aimed





to create an onboard ambience more in tune with land-based architecture. “This aspect will direct your decisions regarding which materials to use, the weight and scale of every piece of furniture, and whether or not the furniture is anchored to the decks or built-in.

“The space has to be as compact and light as possible without losing the illusion of feeling at home or in a cosy hotel,” he adds. “This was one of our key aspects during the design phase of the yacht: to create a space that feels more as if you were in your own house with all the familiarity and comfort that comes with it.”

To create a chic yet warm and inviting feeling, walnut and leather has been used for the furniture – exclusively built by Mazu – while the walls are decorated with metallic finishes and teak paneling that has been textured and stained grey. The textiles and carpets were specially

designed for the boat, as were the doors made of bronzed tempered glass and the stainless-steel hardware.

“The chosen materials are as light as possible and the textures give a sense of spaciousness with a touch of warmth,” says Özelgin.

The yacht is fitted with a state-of-the-art audio system (JL Audio for the exterior and Dali for the interior), which meant that close attention was paid to noise damping. Leather and Alcantara cladding and upholstery throughout help to mute unwanted sound.

The wet surfaces are of a special synthetic material that has a soft leather-like finish, while the bathroom faucets and accessories are by luxury hardware brand Gessi. The high-end galley equipment was supplied by Gaggenau. The Mazu 82 is quite simply stunning.

www.mazuyachts.com



THE ICON FOR ICONS

The Zeelander Z72 is an iconic and enduring interpretation of the modern motor yacht. An evolution of timeless design, crafted for the connoisseurs of life who know what it takes to create the very best. At Zeelander Yachts we see yacht building as an art form and the Z72 embodies that very philosophy - in it's most graceful and elegant sense.



MAKING HISTORY



OLD AND NEW MEET IN THE BEAUTIFUL NOBU HOTEL WARSAW

Nobu needs little introduction. From its humble beginnings in the 1980s as a Beverly Hills sushi restaurant run by chef Nobu Matshushisa, the Nobu brand – restaurants and hotels – has grown to span five continents and 40 global destinations.

A collaboration between actor Robert De Niro, chef Nobu and film producer Meir Teper propelled Nobu to international success. Now with 48 restaurants, from Mexico to Moscow, Melbourne to the Middle East, and 13 hotels, from Malibu to Manila to Marbella, Nobu Hospitality has secured an array of accolades and has been named as one of luxury's 25 Most Innovative Brands by Robb Report.

The latest Nobu Hotel to join the global pack, recently opening in August 2020, is Nobu Hotel Warsaw. While Nobu Warsaw mirrors its sister hotels with the delivery of a subtle luxurious blend of modern cool luxury and minimal Japanese tradition, it offers its own distinct and unique personality. In line with the Nobu Hotel brand philosophy, Nobu Warsaw has been curated to reflect its location and therefore offers a blend of old-world elegance with new world sophistication.

Located right in the heart of Poland's capital city, this 117-room hotel brings together two beautiful experiences in one place, reflecting the two sides of Warsaw: a stunning Art Deco, early 20th century historical building (pre-war was the Rialto Hotel) and a dazzling new modern wing that contemporary and innovative. As guests pass back and forth between these two worlds, transcending through time, the very spirit of the city is felt – Warsaw's dual urge to preserve its history and to redefine itself.





This dual styling, of classic and modern, is similarly reflected in the hotel's 117 rooms and suites, while the artwork throughout the hotel by Polish artists such as Anna Bimer, Piotr Uklanski and Mikolai Moskal, reflect the unique spirit, character and culture of the hotel's location.

While the Deluxe Rooms, located in the modern wing and with a city view, offer a harmonious blend of natural, local materials, contemporary detailing and Japanese design (think floor-to-ceiling soundproof windows, yoga mats and a walk-in shower), the Art Deco Suites deliver 20s décor, a freestanding bathtub, marble bathroom, study and dining area.

As well as its 117 rooms, the hotel offers expansive meeting and event spaces, all equipped with the latest audio-video equipment, as well as a state-of-the-art fitness centre and dining outlets including the world-renowned Nobu restaurant, the Nobu café and the Nobu bar.

You can find Polish pastries at Nobu Café, signature Nobu classics such as Yellow Tail with Jalapeno and Black Cod with Miso at Nobu restaurant and exclusive sakes and creative cocktails at Nobu bar.

Due to the pandemic, numbers are limited in the restaurant, bar and café, with guests now able to order Nobu's signature dishes to their room for in-room dining. Rock shrimp tempura in bed, anyone?

Other pandemic-related preventive measures have been implemented to ensure the safety of all guests. Rooms and common areas are disinfected with UV light after each check-out and guests have access to single-use gloves and disinfectants available throughout the hotel, while all employees don masks and gloves. The instability of the pandemic has also given rise to the hotel adopting a flexible booking and cancellation policy.

Nobu Hotels will be opening Nobu Hotel London Portman Square in west London in December 2020.

www.nobuhotels.com





CHOOSE CITIZEN SCIENCE

As the travel industry prepares to dust itself off and face a new year, **Nick Rice** looks into the relatively new sector of Citizen Science. Put simply: Ask not what your Planet can do for you. Ask what you can do for your Planet.

“Mee moh da moo moo.”

“Ah, yes, mee moh da moo moo,” I shout back through the hand-built wooden home to my lovely host, before surrendering to the music of the night. The slumbersome grunts of the water buffalo, the nocturnal comfort shuffles of the piglets, the myriad insects chirping, and – keeping constant time beneath the whole twilight orchestra – the faint tinkling of the nearby river.

The next morning, after having the sweet dreams she’d wished me, I see my host again. Despite the early hour, I’m ready to try and communicate. “Da Blue,” I say smiling, and she replies, “Da Blue.” She hands me some water for my hike and I say, “Da Blue” gratefully. Boots on and rucksack ready, I head off and wave back with another, “Da Blue.” I wish I could pick up other languages this quickly, but it’s simply that in the Pakinyaw language, “Da Blue” means “hello”, “thank you” and “goodbye.”

The morning mist still shrouds Naklang, the remote Karen Hill Tribe village in the north of Thailand, a 5-hour drive from Chiang Mai, where I’m having my first experience

of being a ‘citizen scientist.’ A relatively new term in the travel industry, citizen science describes lay people working alongside scientists to conduct valuable field research with the aim of improving and protecting nature and wildlife around the world.

I’ve travelled to this remote area in northern Thailand to volunteer at an elephant welfare project established by Biosphere Expeditions, a non-profit and award-winning ethical conservation organisation that has projects all over the world, and which celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2019.

Biosphere Expeditions has partnered with the Kindred Spirit Elephant Sanctuary (KSES) in Naklang, working together to rescue elephants from the often-punishing reality of elephant tourism camps in Thailand, and re-wilding as many elephants as possible.

The village dogs escort us to the fringes of the forest and then leave us to press on past the resplendent green paddy fields and up deep into the jungle, where we’ll find five semi-wild elephants who are living much more natural lives after being rescued by KSES.

The team for the nine-day experience is made up of ten people; six citizen scientists from around the globe, who will be taught how to observe and collect data by the founder of KSES and their resident scientist, and guided in the field by two Biosphere Expedition leaders. Chatting with one of the leaders, Malika Fettak, she gives me some background on “citizen science.”

“It’s a comparatively new term that developed because volunteerism isn’t exactly what we’re doing. Citizen science is people helping with real science and field research. It’s walking into areas to

find tracks or signs of life, or sitting in a hide and doing behavioural studies. It’s all tasks that people can learn within a couple of days, and that’s why it works for lay people. They don’t necessarily have to have a biological background or knowledge.”

Our conversation comes to an abrupt halt as two of the reasons we’re all here suddenly come into view and our jaws slacken. Framed by the lingering veil of mist, the silhouette of 59-year old Too Meh and her 24-year old daughter Mae Doom silences everyone into quiet admiration. Seeing animals in their natural environment like this is why people pay to join these crucial expeditions – you get to actively help protect the animals and their environment, as well as enjoying the rare privilege of observing them in conditions as close to wild as possible.



We all get to work with recording specific data that covers the elephant’s activity, behaviour and diet. Every five minutes we make a note of what the elephants are doing and eating. As the sun rises in the sky, the herd tromps down to a nearby river. Here we see Too-Meh’s grandsons, 14-year old Dodo and the 8-year old scamp Gen Thong, and their adopted family member, 14-year old Boon Rott. It can’t be overstated what a pleasure it is to see elephants being elephants... not being ridden, not being washed down, just doing what they want to do.

Originally from Ireland, Kerri McCrea is the Founder of KSES and now calls this patch of jungle home. Sitting on the river bank she explains why she set up the sanctuary. “The main aim is to bring as many elephants home to the

“Citizen science describes lay people working alongside scientists to conduct valuable field research with the aim of improving and protecting nature and wildlife around the world.”

forest as possible, to live as naturally as possible, with no need to work, to just be elephants. And the aim of our partnership with Biosphere Expeditions is to collect data on the elephants’ natural behaviours. Asian elephants are very understudied in comparison to African elephants. Most of the funding for studies goes to Africa. So, not only are we trying to bridge that gap, but we can also use the information collected.”

All the field work we conduct will be the foundation for a rigorous scientific report detailing elephant diet and

authentic wild behaviour – the report will then be referred to and presented as a benchmark for the proper treatment and welfare of elephants in Thailand.

As we huddle in the shade taking our behavioural notes, Kerri continues, “the report we create can help us to educate elephant tourist camps and other elephant facilities, like zoos, so they can learn precisely what the elephants need and set standards for their welfare. To put this in practical terms and give you an idea of figures, it might be normal for a camp to feed its elephants with just one or two types of food in their diet. Say bananas and sugarcane. And yet, we’re able to demonstrate that they can consume up to 248 different species of plants and trees.”

With hundreds of elephant camps spread across Thailand, with greatly varying levels of welfare for the elephants, it’s easy to appreciate how vital such a report will be. After commercial logging in Thailand was shut down in 1989, to mitigate flooding caused by all the uprooted trees, the population





of around 4000 elephants literally had nowhere to go. As most of their natural habitat had already been destroyed, they couldn't just be released otherwise they would starve or wander into fields and cause conflict with farmers. So, the tourism industry sprang up as a way for the elephants to generate an income and to co-exist with people. There is no regulation on the treatment of the elephants in the industry though, and so the science is crucial for the report.

Every elephant we study here has a close bond with their mahout – normally a local man who has known the elephant for years – and this relationship ensures that human/animal conflict is avoided and dangers such as ingesting pesticides from cornfields is mitigated. The elephants live as though they would in the wild, albeit for this human safeguard.

In terms of behaviour, we observed over the course of the expedition how social the elephants are, spending hours

“You get to actively help protect the animals and their environment, as well as enjoying the rare privilege of observing them in conditions as close to wild as possible.”

of each day together, interacting in a variety of ways. In contrast, some tourist camps work the elephants for long hours and then keep them apart from each other, starving the animals of social attention and comfort.

The partnership between Biosphere Expeditions and KSES couldn't be more vital as today there are more domestic elephants in Thailand than there are wild elephants, caused by the usual culprit of loss of habitat, combined with the cultural perception of elephants as property.

Another aspect of Biosphere Expeditions and KSES's work is monitoring general biodiversity and fostering the participation of local people in the protection and conservation of

elephants through education initiatives and community-based tourism, which prioritises the development of local communities.

The Karen people, our hosts for the expedition, are unfailingly warm and sociable, opening their homes and inviting us to join them in their daily lives. We were able to learn about and buy examples of their traditional weaving, enjoy their food, absorb a few phrases in Pakinyaw and understand first-hand their intimate relationship with elephants.

Now the world has changed so dramatically, it throws into stark relief how delicate the balance between humans and nature is. The Coronavirus crisis shocked the planet and triggered an unprecedented pause in 'business

as usual' in the industrialised world. One of the few silver linings of the pandemic has been the brief respite given to the natural world and its wildlife, with ecosystems all over the world getting a long overdue chance to recover.

Biosphere Expeditions currently has 12 projects running worldwide, ranging from Leatherback turtle conservation in Costa Rica to protecting the Snow Leopard in Kyrgyzstan, and never has their work been more vital.

Travel itself will inevitably change in the aftermath of COVID-19, with many people wanting to contribute towards a more conscious form of tourism. The fragility of our existence and the degradation of the planet is inarguably evident for all to see. Hopefully there will be an increase in travellers supporting community-based tourism and embracing experiences that promote social and economic growth in marginalised regions and which protect and conserve wildlife and the natural environment.



Dr. Matthias Hammer, the Founder and Executive Director of Biosphere Expeditions says, “We have spent the last twenty years helping to build the data that improves the chances for wildlife. And we will continue to do this essential work. Without the science underpinning our understanding of the world, we cannot make rational choices in support of its future.”

It’s a tough question but I ask Dr. Hammer if Biosphere Expeditions can survive this pandemic. He reflects for a moment and says, “The honest answer is that I don’t know for certain, but probably. We’ve made contingency plans but even the best plans are pointless if we run out of money. The contributions that our citizen scientists make constitute the lion’s share of our income. Of course, this has collapsed to almost zero since March.

“At the moment, however, all 2021 expedition are online and we will assess how things go as time progresses... we strongly believe that conservation work must continue despite, and perhaps even because of this crisis. We’re optimists by default, backed by



good planning, and we’re also fighters. Watch this space for updates as 2020 continues and turns into 2021. The three most helpful things people can do are to join an expedition (European ones are probably the best bet), give to our appeal, or join our Friends.”

Some of Biosphere Expeditions projects have been forced to suspend operations due to the pandemic, but check biosphere-expeditions.org/ for full details. Taking part in a Biosphere Expedition is an unforgettable experience, but if it’s not possible just yet, there are many ways to help, from reading their 20 tips on how to be (radically) green, seeing their Do More campaign or contributing to the coronavirus appeal which closes at the end of this month.

The coronavirus appeal to help the local conservation partners through the crisis ended on November 30. Support for the partners to get through the pandemic can be donated here: biosphere-expeditions.org/appeal

“The report we create can help us to educate elephant tourist camps and other elephant facilities, like zoos, so they can learn precisely what the elephants need and set standards for their welfare.”





ELECTRIC **SHOCK**

Not only are electric supercars just as sexy as their gas-guzzling cousins, they also boast performance that puts the old guard to shame.

Is it time for you to make the switch?



Russell Carr, Design Director, Lotus Cars, said: “We studied how Le Mans race cars use air flow creatively to go over, under and around the vehicle, but also through it. This concept of ‘porosity’ is key to the Evija and has enabled us to create a timeless design with exceptional amounts of downforce.”

The Evija is the first Lotus road car to feature a one-piece carbon fibre monocoque chassis. The cabin, from the fully adjustable race-style seats to the multi-function steering wheel, is the very pinnacle of motorsport-inspired road car design and technology.

At the heart of the Evija is an ultra-advanced all-electric powertrain. It has been developed by technical partner Williams Advanced Engineering, famed for success in motorsport, from Formula One to electrifying the first four seasons of Formula E. The battery pack is mid-mounted immediately behind the two seats and supplies energy directly to four powerful e-motors. This highly efficient system is the lightest, most energy dense, electric power package ever fitted to a road car. With a target weight of just 1,680 kg, it will be the lightest pure electric hypercar ever to go into series production.

The Evija has five driving modes – Range, City, Tour, Sport and Track. It can race from 0-62mph (0-100 km/h) in under three seconds and accelerate to a top speed of more than 200mph (0-320 km/h).

Matt Windle, Executive Director, Sports Car Engineering, Lotus Cars, said: “Every element of the Evija has been meticulously analysed and validated. Precision engineering is nothing without human engagement, and that’s why technology with soul is the benchmark for this and every Lotus.”

Using existing charging technology, charge time will be just 12 minutes to 80% and 18 minutes to 100%. The car’s range is 250 miles (400 km) on the WLTP Combined Cycle, or 270 miles on the NEDC Combined Cycle.

The Evija doesn’t come cheap, priced at £1.7m plus duties and taxes, but it looks and sounds like it’s worth every single penny.



PORSCHE TAYCAN 4S

Announced late last year and with first deliveries now under way, the new Porsche Taycan 4S joins the Taycan Turbo S and Taycan Turbo as the ultimate all-electric sports cars.

The four-door, four-wheel drive Taycan is the first battery electric Porsche sports car and has all the style and performance you would expect from the famous firm. While stats regarding ‘overboost power output’ and kilowatts may not mean much to the average motoring enthusiast, acceleration of 0-62mph in 4 seconds flat will catch the eye. The Taycan 4S also boasts a top speed of 155mph, and a range of up to 287 miles on a single charge (depending on how heavy you are on the pedals, of course).

With its clean design, the Taycan signals a new era. Yet it retains the unmistakable Porsche design DNA. From the front, it looks particularly wide and flat, with highly contoured wheel arches either side. The sporting roof line carves a distinctive silhouette as it slopes down to the rear. The highly sculpted body side sections are also characteristic. The sleek cabin, the drawn-in rear C-pillar and the pronounced shoulders of the rear wheel arches create the sporting stance on the road typical of Porsche.

Distinguishing features of the Taycan 4S compared with the Turbo and Turbo S include the aerodynamically optimised 19-inch Taycan S Aero wheels and red- painted brake calipers. The new design front apron, side sills and rear diffuser in black ensure further visual differentiation.





The cockpit also signals the start of a new era with its clear structure and completely new architecture. The free-standing, curved instrument cluster forms the highest point on the dashboard. This places a clear focus on the driver's point of view. A central 10.9-inch infotainment display and an optional passenger display are combined to form an integrated glass band.

As standard, the Taycan 4S comes with a partial leather interior, and front comfort seats.

The launch of the Taycan sees Porsche offer an entirely leather-free interior for the first time. Interiors made from innovative recycled materials underscore the sustainable concept of the electric sports car.

For the perfect ride, Porsche uses a centrally networked control system for the Taycan chassis which analyses and synchronises all systems in real time. As standard, the Taycan 4S features adaptive air suspension with three-chamber technology including electronic damper control PASM (Porsche Active Suspension Management).

Sleek, stylish and sustainable, the Taycan 4S should be on any wish list.





ASTON MARTIN RAPIDE E

The Rapide E is Aston Martin's first battery electric vehicle, and will be limited to a production run of just 155 units.

Working closely with Williams Advanced Engineering (WAE) as its development partner, Aston Martin has utilised the hugely successful world-leader in Electric Vehicle (EV) technology to kickstart a new era for Aston Martin's powertrain technology.

Throughout the development process, the engineering team have focused on achieving effective cooling of the batteries and motor to ensure consistent performance, while strict weight targets have been stringently observed using lightweight alloys and carbon composite materials.

Being an Aston Martin, the Rapide E is being developed with a high-performance objective. Projected top speed for the Rapide E is 155mph, with a sub-4.0 seconds 0-60mph time and a 50-70mph time of just 1.5 seconds. It's important to stress that these figures are not restricted to a narrow window only when the batteries are fully-charged. Instead the target is for maximum performance on-demand throughout majority of the battery state of charge window, as would be expected from a conventional internal combustion-engined car.

This includes the ability to enjoy driving at top speed for sustained periods on the highways, or the type of repeated hard acceleration and braking typical of enthusiastic driving on secondary roads.

It has also been an objective of the project to retain and enhance the feel, character and delivery of the V12-engined Rapide S. The rear-wheel drive Rapide E's twin electric motors will drive through a Limited-Slip Differential, which ensures the pure handling characteristics for which the petrol-powered Rapide S is already renowned.

Though the Rapide E will be built in low volumes, it is being subjected to Aston Martin's stringent and exhaustive testing protocols, with the dedicated WAE team working closely alongside Aston Martin personnel to ensure every aspect of the prototype test programme follows the marque's established procedures.

Uniquely, Rapide E customers will be an extended part of the ongoing development programme, with their comments and driving experiences providing an invaluable stream of feedback that will help shape and improve future Aston Martin EVs.



TESLA ROADSTER

No company has done more than Tesla to revolutionise electric cars, single-handedly making them both luxurious and aspirational. Anyone who has experienced the Tesla driving experience and slipped into Ludicrous mode (yes, it actually exists) will testify – there is nothing dull about electric.

Tesla's new Roadster, which it hopes to bring to market this year, will simply be the fastest production car in the world, hitting 0-60mph in 1.9 seconds, hit 100mph in 4.2 seconds, and with a top speed in excess of 250mph. Not only that, the Roadster can manage 620 miles on a single charge. An incredible 10,000Nm of torque delivers six times as much as the Bugatti Chiron. How can you not be impressed?

The all-electric supercar maximises efficiency with lightweight construction and superior aerodynamic engineering, while still offering seating for 4 passengers and a removable glass roof that can be stored in the boot for a genuine convertible experience.

There are rumours circulating that Elon Musk will be offering a SpaceX package where the Roadster will have cold air thrusters for even more impact, though that may mean losing those rear seats. We think that's a sacrifice most people will be willing to make.

As Musk said at the launch of the new Roadster: "The point of doing this is to give the hard smackdown to gasoline cars. Driving a gasoline sports car is going to feel like driving a steam engine with a side of quiche."

The original Roadster launched Tesla to the world back in 2008, and since then we have enjoyed the Models S, 3, X and Y (see what they did there?). Just recently Tesla also launched the Mad Max-esque Cybertruck – a utility vehicle that literally looks out of this world. The return to the Roadster roots and fundamentals is something of a homecoming for Musk and the team as they aim to deliver the ultimate sports car, that just happens to be electric.

As usual with Tesla, details of the interior and final specs are a little sketchy, as the company aims to meet or exceed its wow-factor stats. That said, we do love the sneak preview of the F1-style steering wheel, and there is much to admire in the exterior styling that's distinctly Tesla but with a more muscular presence.

Deposits are now being taken, with 1,000 Founders Series Reservations available for earliest deliveries, due some time later this year.



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