

An aerial photograph of a person on a white kayak in clear, turquoise water. The water's surface is covered in ripples, and the overall color palette is dominated by various shades of blue and green. A large, semi-transparent white shape is overlaid on the water, framing the text.

# Sunseeker

THE MAGAZINE





BOODLES  
1798

A FAMILY STORY

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STEINWAY & SONS

# Welcome

# Make it personal.

Dear friends,

In this next edition of Sunseeker magazine, we commemorate the past whilst celebrating and embracing the new.

I am deeply saddened to tell you that Robert Braithwaite passed away on 7th March. Robert was not only the company's founder but the father of the 'Sunseeker family' both here in Dorset and worldwide through our dealers and clients. Robert was an inspiration to us all and to the wider boating industry, recognised as a pioneer, a true visionary and someone that changed the face of boating forever. He will always live on in our thoughts as the driving force behind our success.

Within these pages we pay homage to Robert, his legacy and celebrate the brand he built from scratch including news of the incredible new Hawk 38, our most technologically advanced performance boat ever.

We cover some serious miles within this edition: from sea, land and space! Delve deep into the crystal-clear waters of the Maldives in a miniature submarine or, if you're more epicurean inclined, why not try a Michelin-star meal in vast outer space? Discover how Brown + Hudson has made this possible. Finally, we catch up with explorer, Henry Cookson to discuss exploration, escapades and the (almost) impenetrable Arctic.

As summer beckons, we invite adventure into our lives. From the extensive fjords of the achingly beautiful northern Norway to the tropical, lush eco-resorts of Costa Rica; enjoy your summer season and if you get a chance, experience daring like never before!

Sincerely,



CHRISTIAN MARTI, CEO



The Moisturiser



The Hydrator



The Anti-Ager



The Brightener

Your skin's needs are unique and always changing. The world-renowned beauty trailblazer, Dr Jean-Louis Sebagh pioneered the concept of mixing different, powerful serums to create a personalised daily ritual that perfectly meets your skin's needs. Potent and award-winning, Dr Sebagh's iconic serums—including the trio of super-serums featured here—can all be used alone or combined, for agelessly radiant results.

Moisturising is essential to restore the skin barrier, protect against environmental aggressors, seal in hydration and keep skin plump. Deeply moisturise and soothe your skin using **Rose de Vie Serum**, with antioxidant and nourishing rosehip oil, blended with the hydrating, hyaluronic acid-rich **Serum Repair**, which instantly leaves skin looking and feeling plumped, firmer and tighter.

Add a trouble-shooting, 'Ageing-Maintenance' hero to the mix with a few drops of **Supreme Maintenance Youth Serum**. It boasts 95% active ingredients, more than any other skin care product, including the 'youth molecule' Resveratrol, three anti-aging peptides, a mineral radiance booster and an anti-pollution film.

Power-up your serum blend even more with a little **Pure Vitamin C Powder Cream**. This patented, highly concentrated and stabilised powder-to-cream formula can be mixed with any serum to brighten the skin, prevent pigmentation and bring back its glow.

Available in-store and at [drsebagh.com](http://drsebagh.com)

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**Katy Davidson**

Katy Davidson is a freelance writer, events creator, Ostrelier, chef and sustainability campaigner who lives in Cornwall, conveniently close to an oyster farm. Never one to shy away from taking part, recent commissions have seen her dancing Creole on grapes for Pisco production and taking the reins of a traditional Caballos de Paso horse. Coastal living and all that comes with it are her abiding passions and in this issue Katy explores the eco-tourism of the Revillagigedo Archipelago.



**Anuar Patjane Floriuk**

Anuar Patjane Floriuk is a social anthropologist, photographer and scuba diver. Born in Puebla, Mexico, Anuar won a prestigious World Press Photo award in 2016 for his image featured on page 24. This award-winning photograph was taken 800km off the coast of Baja, California. Anuar has since stated that this shot was, "entirely improvised". He was shooting close to the whales when they suddenly turned and swam right towards the divers. Anuar mostly shoots in black and white and spends a lot of time underwater photographing marine life.



**Alice Howarth**

Alice Howarth is a travel writer who has written for the likes of *Evening Standard*, *British GQ*, *GLAMOUR* and *Harper's Bazaar*. Over the years she has climbed the Danakil Depression in Ethiopia, photographed Day of the Dead in Mexico, attended cowgirl school in Arizona, surfed in the Arctic waters of Norway and watched Sumo wrestlers practice at their stables in Japan. On page 32, she takes you on a journey across the Maldivian ocean floor.

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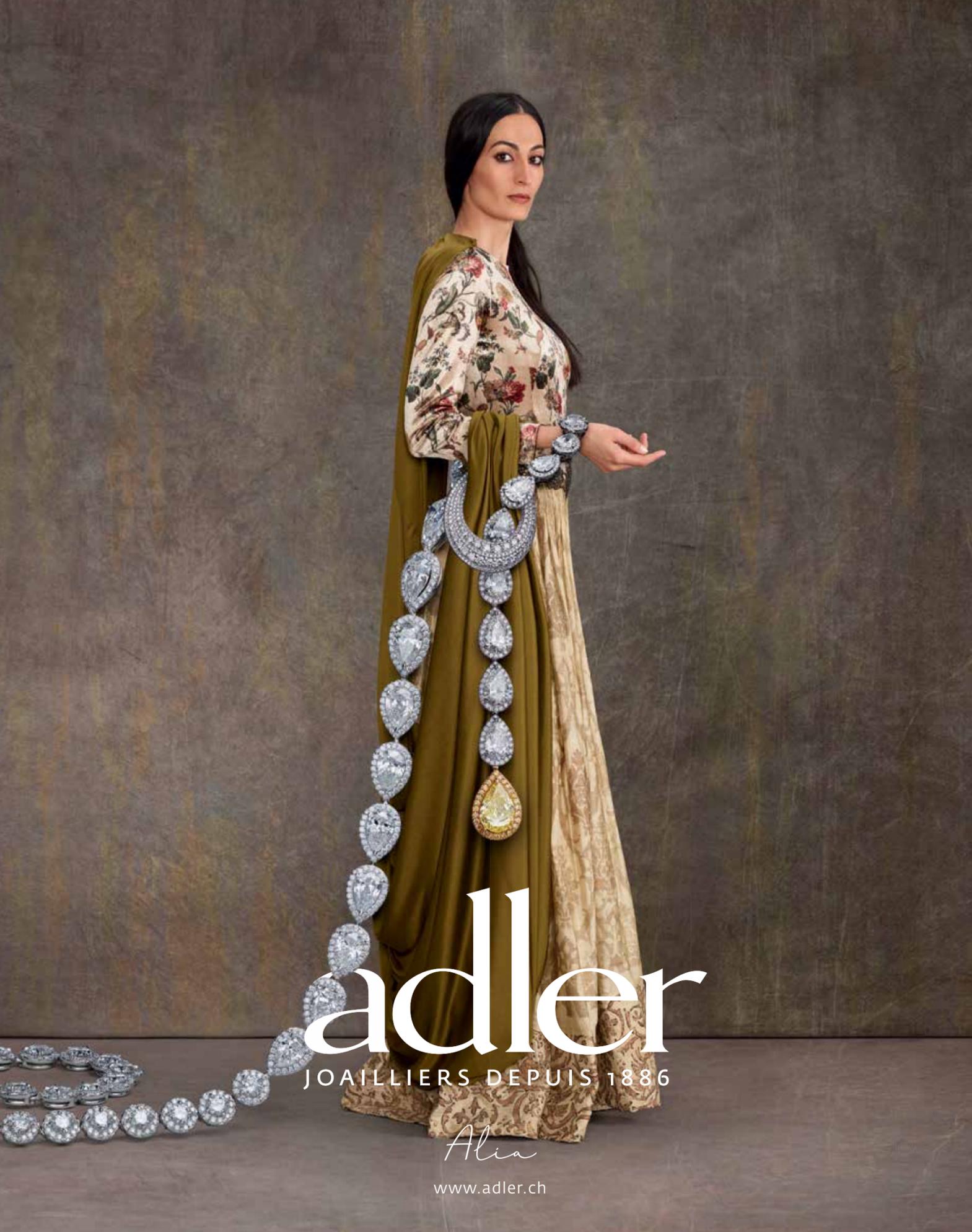
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**“Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn’t do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbour. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover.”**

—Mark Twain

1—

TRAVEL



Face the

The world is full of possibilities and adventures to be had. Here, we catch up with adventurer, travel pioneer and eponymous travel business owner, Henry Cookson.

words by  
Catherine McMaster

unknown

**E**xperiential adventure takes various iterations and forms. Trekking in the Amazon, hiking up Mount Kilimanjaro, braving the elements in the taciturn and desolate Arctic, swimming with white pointers; the horizon and desire for arduous and rewarding travel has expanded exponentially.

Cue, Cookson Adventures: 'Explore with elegance' is its tagline, and subsequently it appeases our hunger for modern audacious travel... but they also provide a hint of comfort and luxury.

I met the founder, Henry, in an opulent Mayfair café, he's home for a month. Rugged, slightly weather-beaten yet poised, "it's the first time I have been in London for consistently more than two weeks," he tells me.

It's not incongruous to assume that Henry Cookson lives his life 'on the road'. In the past four months he's covered some impressive ground: Colombia, The Bahamas, the Antarctic (twice), India, Florida. As his eponymous company suggests, he's certainly the 'face of the brand', the human personification of the Cookson adventure tagline.

Intrinsically, we all have an insatiable desire to travel to far flung and remote locations. Call it our evolutionary impulse, but we do innately wish to explore the unattained. Ronald Amundsen, Neil Armstrong, Christopher Columbus and Amelia Earhart, attest to this assertion.

Cookson Adventure has organically evolved from a passion point to a successful business, with the desire for exploration being the backbone.

"I grew up in the countryside," says Henry. "I was the eldest of four boys, so it would be a lot of rough and tumble and building camps. I got carted off to a boarding school, aged eight; and it was basically a big adventure playground. We were building camps; treehouses and we became sort of inventive. We'd find old bits of corrugated iron in the bushes and crowbars, use vines and create these very complicated structures. We'd create a narrative and a story."

It's a narrative not dissimilar to many, but the differentiation is that Henry Cookson has (to the envy of many) managed to evolve his passion into a viable and successful career.

It began in Africa, the rawest evocation of existence, and on a safari; perhaps the most widely acknowledged signifier of Sub-Saharan Africa.

"In my teens I spent a bit of time in East Africa. You start going to Africa and that's when things start getting raw. As a fifteen-sixteen-year old, being in the middle of nowhere and on big cattle ranches and wildlife reserves, it was the nail in the coffin in terms of sealing me in there.

"When I left school, I went back to Africa and ended up working on a riding safari for six months. The perception of African safaris was a Land Rover or walking, but I had to learn to ride a horse."

It whetted the appetite for greater exploration and adventure, and certainly discoloured the idea of embarking on a conventional city career. However, conformism called, and Cookson ended up at Goldman Sachs doing his "duty for a few years" before eventually quitting and returning to Africa.

But, he never made it there. Rather, after a "conversation and a couple of drinks too many" with a friend, the idea to tackle the somewhat impenetrable North Pole proved too desirable to ignore. Henry and a couple of mates embarked on the 2005 Polar Challenge race, a 360-mile ski contest across the frozen Arctic. Unequivocally and shockingly, Henry and his team mates ended up winning.

"The North Pole really wasn't me. I mean, I was somewhat overweight, I liked to party, I was bankrupt. I didn't do Gortex, I didn't camp. Suddenly, you open your eyes to this world of training, rations and stupidly cold temperatures. It was exciting, doing something different, once in a lifetime and then go back to normality."

For many, the Arctic is seen through rose-tinted spectacles: the endless fjords, glaciers and all-encompassing haze of white. The danger (frostbite, polar bears, sub-zero temperatures) only compels our imagination. The reality, however, is far from romantic.

"The pain, the exhaustion, sleep deprivation and the food was revolting! Everything about it was just wrong," Henry says defiantly (recalling his preparation for the Arctic in 2005).

"The race was eleven days, so we were doing some serious mileage, more than a marathon in a day. It was also minus twenty to thirty degree temperatures, and you're dragging a seventy kilo sled behind you. And then at the end of each day you've got to put up your tent, melt the snow for drinking water, stitch up your clothes, make a satellite call to give your position, and all of this time you have to navigate and keep yourself from losing your finger. I mean, at the end of the day it's mentally exhausting."

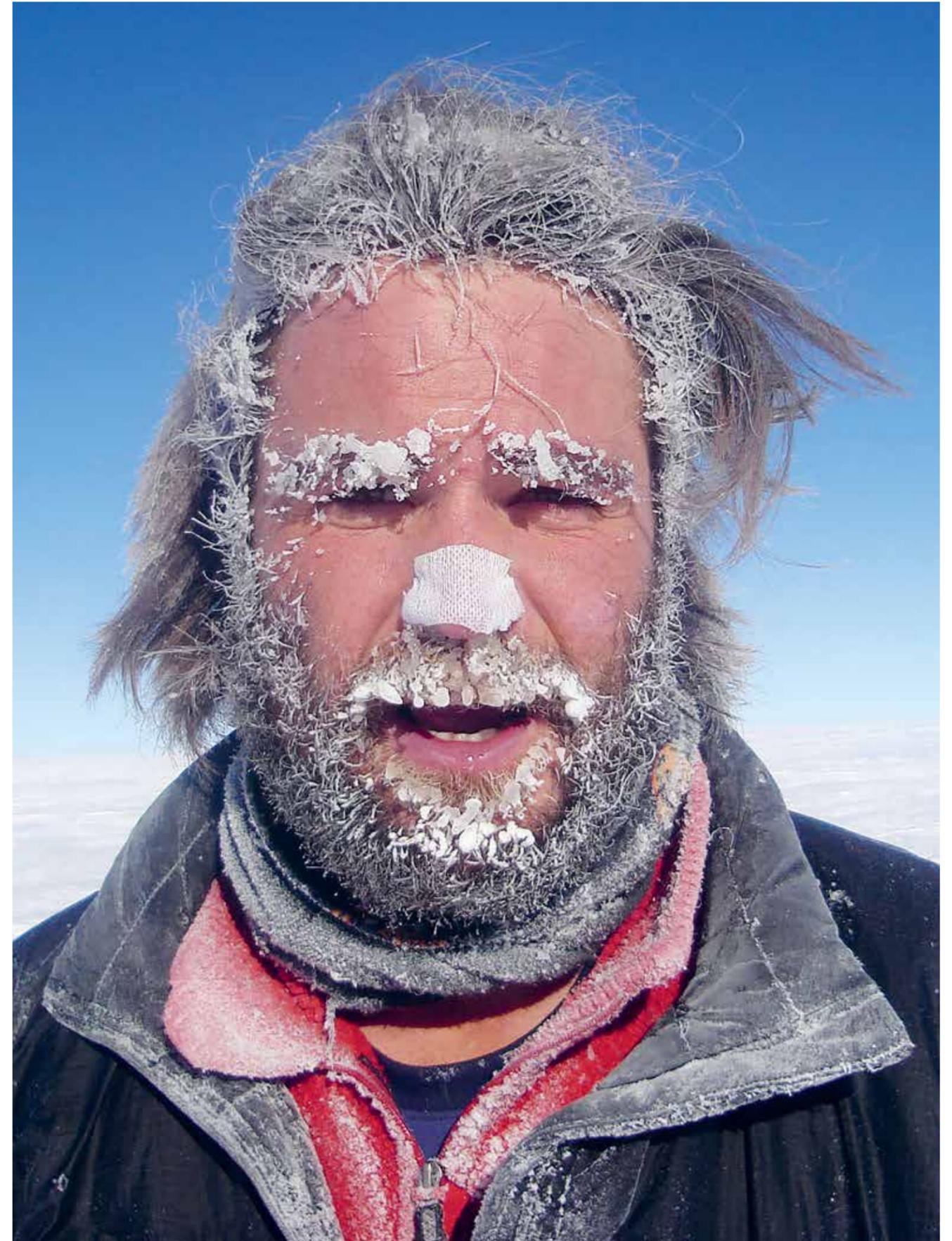
Despite this evident physical and emotional strain, the Arctic evidently enticed, captivated and intrigued Henry Cookson. He has been back numerous times, even once attempting and succeeding to kite ski to the Southern Pole of Inaccessibility, and thus attaining a Guinness World Record.

But, why? Why endure the risk? There are various watered-down varieties of adventurous travel, yet Cookson doesn't seem to stomach them.

"Nobody else had ever tried to go there before. There's a serious lack of originality out there. Everyone wants to go and climb Everest. So, I suppose the mind-set was, 'Well, we're doing something different, so let's make it really different. This is our time, our money, our everything, so let's do something that really makes a difference to us.'

It's this ethos that tangibly interlinks and intertwines all of Cookson's adventures, both personally and professionally. Cookson Adventures is a bespoke luxury adventure travel company, it tailors the adventure to the client. Whether it's exploring the remote Turkana by helicopter, swimming with sharks in Mozambique, or uncovering the *Titanic* wreck in a miniature submarine (a recent foray), Cookson Adventures prodigiously organises plans and materialises your ideal escapade. **S**

*To discover more about Cookson Adventures please visit [cooksonadventures.com](http://cooksonadventures.com)*



**PREVIOUS PAGE** Explore with elegance is the Cookson motto. This could eventuate into flying to a remote location

**RIGHT** Henry Cookson during his trek to the Pole of Inaccessibility

**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT**  
There is a plethora of iterations that Cookson Adventure offers. Whether it's taking a yacht down

the Eastern Arctic, exploring untouched locations; meeting wolves in their native habitat; capturing a wild bear in the Wrangell Mountains,

camping in one of the most remote locations in the world; deep-diving in a mini submarine in the Arctic



At the end of each day you've got to put up your tent, melt the snow for drinking water, stitch up your clothes, make a satellite call to give your position, and all of this time you have to navigate and keep yourself from losing your finger



# Timeless riviera living

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**M**ontenegro might be small, but its riches are great: year-round sunshine, a vivacious history, vibrant culture, and unspoilt scenery from mountainous inlands to a diverse coastline. Luštica Bay is an ideal location to discover all the country has to offer, and a little something new too...

It might be within easy reach of three major airports and just a stone's throw from the UNESCO world heritage Bay of Kotor, but the new residential town and boutique resort of Luštica Bay feels worlds away. Bordered by verdant rolling hills and dipping its toes into crystal-clear Adriatic waters, it's located along the vivid beauty of the Luštica peninsula where it's carving out an exceptional way of life.

A life that combines the gentle traditions of Montenegrin coastal living with state-of-the-art contemporary facilities and a sustainable future. Fine-dining, superb shopping, world-class golfing and yachting, and five-star service, all converge to create the ultimate luxury riviera experience for guests and residents alike. A haven as diverse and exciting as it is tranquil and soothing to the soul.

Last year, it opened its new Marina Village. Set on the waterfront, in the heart of town, the Marina Village echoes the small hamlets that dot the Montenegrin coastline. Encompassing a new marina, The Chedi hotel, and a charming waterfront promenade of shops, restaurants, and lifestyle outlets, it has become the lifeblood of the town. A stylish harbour hub; a buzzing social scene; and a space to admire Luštica's signature views over a glass of Montenegrin wine. Its promenade offerings champion local talent, bringing authentic Montenegro to Luštica Bay, with restaurants serving up seasonal, local dishes and shops that combine world-renowned brands with local designs and one-of-a-kind treasures.

In July, Luštica Bay's first hotel, The Chedi Luštica Bay, also opened its doors. Set on the waterfront of the Marina Village, the hotel sets the scene for a new holiday experience. Nowhere else will you find the unique combination of The Chedi's discreet luxury and service alongside Montenegro's natural warmth and authenticity. It embraces the Montenegrin saying: Samo Polako – to slow down and live in the here and now.



# Wet & wild

Ten different species of shark reside in the waters around the remote Revillagigedo Islands. Unsurprisingly, it's a UNESCO World Heritage Site and the sharks are studied, tagged and tracked. We take a deep-dive under and discover the unique and wonderful species that lie beneath

words by  
Katy Davidson

**T**he contrasting land masses of the Revillagigedo Archipelago, combining green undulations with sheer cliffs and craters, are a sparsely populated decoy for the natural abundance of what lies beneath. The four Mexican islands that make up this solid focal point within North America's largest marine reserve are actually a collection of volcanic peaks, below which pelagic life teems with variety and biodiversity.

Socorro, Clarion, San Benedicto and Roca Partida are the visible elements of a larger group of subaquatic mountains and volcanoes. This unusual topography, along with the conjoining currents of the North Equator and California, has created a unique merroir, which boasts one of the most densely populated seascapes of sharks and Manta in the world.

An ideal destination for divers, tourists are not openly encouraged to visit these remote islands; without purpose that is.

As a marine reserve and UNESCO Heritage Site, 250 miles due south of Cabo San Lucas, normal tourism rules do not apply. Entrance to Revillagigedo National Park requires a paid permit; you are not allowed to break land without permission from the resident population of forty-five members of the Mexican Navy; and you are certainly not allowed to fish.

However, the privilege of visiting the archipelago far outweighs these restrictions, for when you do venture it is with a trained Citizen Science Shark Research Expedition member. In a mutually beneficial experience for you, and the sharks, you can join leading research scientists along with professional scuba companies, 'Dive Ninja Expeditions' or 'Quino El Guardian', which are both hosted on the latter's 90ft fully catered, air-conditioned research vessel, to actively assist in shark and Manta conservation.

#### PREVIOUS PAGE

The Revillagigedo Islands are known for their unique ecosystem. This marine reserve is home to a plethora of marine life, including whales and sharks

#### RIGHT

At approximately 240 miles southwest of Cabo San Lucas, the islands boast ten different species of shark





**Your first foray could comprise of a training dive to identify and record many of the ten shark species in the area, followed by the capture and tagging of live Silvertip shark pups**

**ABOVE** The protection zone spans 57,000 sq miles around the Revillagigedo Islands. The island is practically uninhabited, with a population of 45.

**LEFT** As a lonely seamount far offshore, the waters attract a number of pelagic species, among which are large groups of Manta rays

**NEXT PAGE** The archipelago consists of four islands of volcanic origins. It's considered one of the most remote diving places in the world

Whilst these waters have enjoyed some form of protection since 1994, there are still pressures on transient shark populations through targeted commercial fishing and accidental catch in the wider Pacific waters. To help form a living picture of the density and movement of these vital and ancient species, you will be trained in the hands-on research work of marine biology by luminaries such as Dr Mauricio Hoyos, an accomplished expert in shark conservation.

A typical day onboard starts with a cooked breakfast before a full day of activities, which include three to four dives during which you'll be versed in scientific observation, identification, tagging and telemetry techniques.

Your first foray could comprise of a training dive to identify and record many of the ten shark species in the area, followed by the capture and tagging of live Silvertip shark pups. In the evening you'll use the dog food 'Chum' to draw larger adult Silky sharks to the stern of the boat where you'll help take tissue samples using a biopsy sampler.

At quiet moments your eyes may drift from the science to enjoy the wider watery theatre of what is sometimes known as 'The Little Galapagos' due to the rare nature of its ecosystem. The chain of islands acts as a way point for some of the water's largest migratory species. You'll easily enjoy sightings of the iconically shaped Hammerhead shark's which are often found in awe-inspiring schools of sixty or more. Humpback whales, who visit in winter to calve and train their young in the warmer waters, cut more solitary yet equally impressive figures in the azure depths.

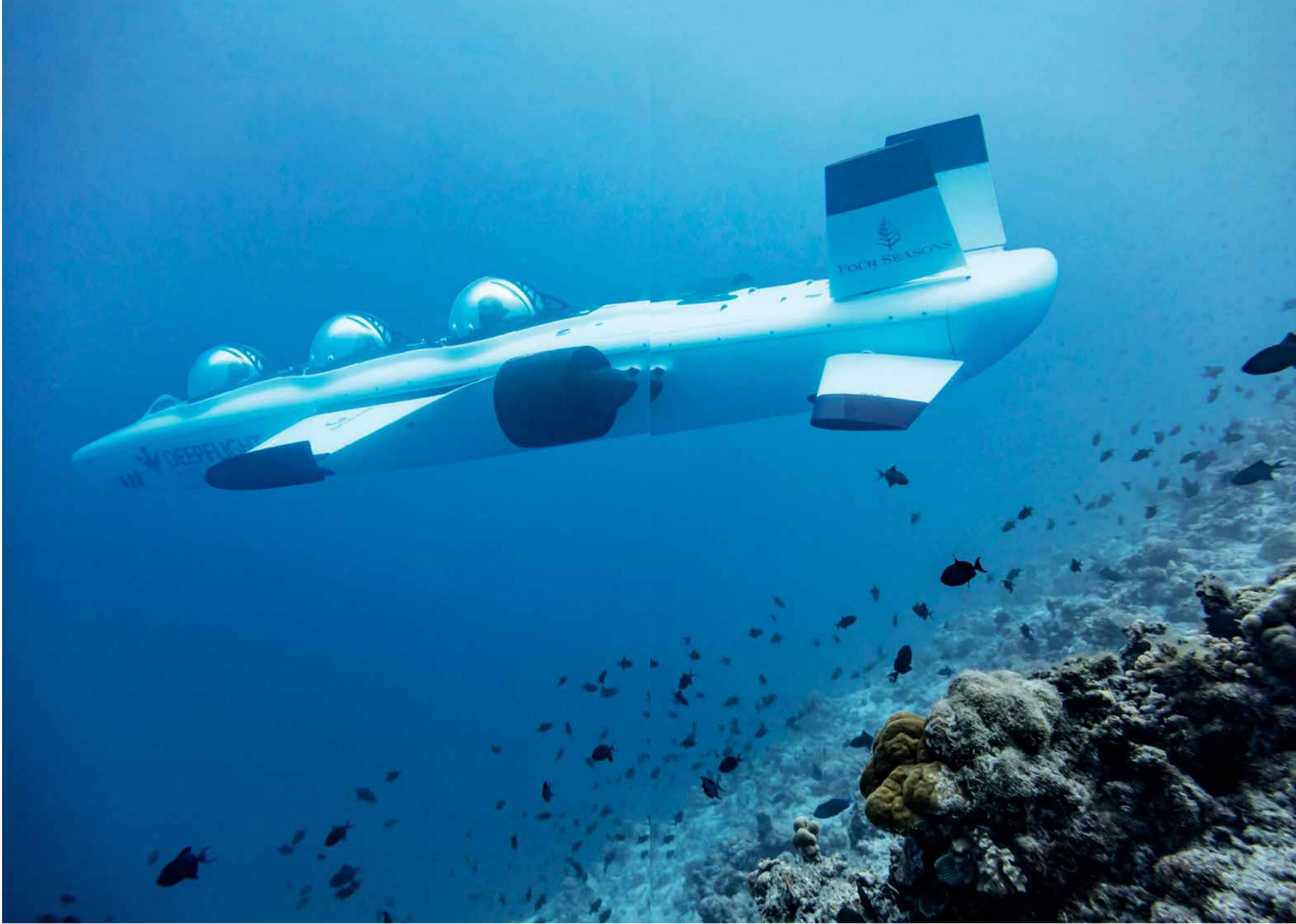
With nearly 400 species of fish in the Revillagigedo corridor, shoals will shift and shape gracefully in front of your eyes, like a salty kaleidoscope, and as the scales and bubbles clear you might just catch a glimpse of the numinous dappled Whale shark: the largest and one of the most mysterious fish in the ocean. **S**

**An ideal destination for divers,  
tourists are not openly encouraged  
to visit these remote islands;  
without purpose that is**



WORKS OF ART DON'T JUST HANG ON WALLS

The ocean is a beguiling place. It's a life source for so many, but can be extremely treacherous. Now, we can get up close and far more personal with the ocean and discover what lies at the very bottom.



**T**hink of submarines and you likely think of clanging, weighted bubbles descending into the dark abyss of the ocean. The concept of elegant vessels, carving their way to the ocean floor, seems unimaginable to most, yet, with today's technology and the expanding minds of the avid traveller, these ideas have become a reality.

The Super Falcon 3S DeepFlight is the world's first three-person submarine, which is docked off the coast of the pristine Landaa Giraavaru island in the Baa Atoll, in the Maldives. The gold standard of private submarine travel, the £1.6 million boat enables you to explore the only UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve unlike ever before.

Not dissimilarly shaped to a small Concorde plane, the crimson red and white boat is streamlined in design. With room for you and a loved one as well as a professional pilot, it contains three single cockpits. Guests of the Four Seasons Resort on Landaa Giraavaru enter via the wing and lower themselves into their individual pods, as a clear perspex dome is tightly sealed overhead. Each panoramic viewing bubble is personally pressurised and air-conditioned, meaning there's no risk of popping ears as you descend 37m underwater.

Lasting the duration of one hour, once submerged the wonder of the seabed truly comes into focus, as the Maldivian marine life swirls before you. Wildly vibrant fish, with geometric patterned and neon-inked fins, circle around – their scales catching the light from the ocean roof as they pass out of eyesight. As one of the best places in the world to see Manta rays – the Maldives was one of the first nations to protect the species – it's not an uncommon sighting to see the gentle giants swooping and swerving overhead. Tortoises can also be spotted drifting with lazy ease, and pods of eager dolphins often put on an animated show when given the chance. For those looking for a daring marine sighting, you may even see the Tawny Nurse Sharks snaking by.

With the ocean at the heart of the unit's design, the battery-powered vessel is a feat in near-silent travel, allowing you to soak up the ethereal ambience of the ocean undisturbed. Designed so that the coral reefs and marine life are protected, the submarine never lands, instead it hovers and scales the ocean floor from a small height.

For those worried about safety, they needn't be. Each passenger is given a headset allowing them to communicate with the pilot in real-time (and inquire about the name of obscure marine species floating alongside). The boat is also tracked via a ship above and divers are onboard who can easily reach you at 37 metres. Should there be a power failure, the boat's 'thrust' system allows it to rise immediately and, as for oxygen, there's a reassuring backup supply that'll last up to 24 hours.

The deep depths of the beguiling ocean may once have been reserved for scientists and explorers but with Super Falcon 3S DeepFlight making waves, the previously dreamed-of experience for the holiday go-er is becoming a luxurious reality. It's one we certainly wouldn't miss. **S**

*Journeys on DeepFlight are priced at USD 1,500 (+12% GST) per flight, for up to a maximum of two passengers.*

**PREVIOUS PAGE** The Super Falcon 3S Deep Flight is the world's first three-person submarine

**RIGHT** Currently, it is solely for guests of the Four Seasons Resort. Guests can see a plethora of marine life

**FOLLOWING PAGE** The Four Seasons Resort in the Maldives offers 103 villas in the Baa Atoll UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve



The concept of elegant vessels, carving their way to the ocean floor, seems unimaginable to most, yet, with today's technology and the expanding minds of the avid traveller, these ideas have become a reality

**“The ability to be in the present moment is a major competent of mental wellness ”**

—Abraham Maslow



Navigate your sartorial impulses with our guide to dressing after-dark on the open sea. The tempo is languid, and the style is luminous. Turn-heads in this season's definitive twilight attire.

# Turning heads at twilight

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**Hair & Make-up**  
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**Stay chic on the open sea.  
Think: pared back palettes,  
streamlined tailoring,  
ethereal luminescent fabrics**

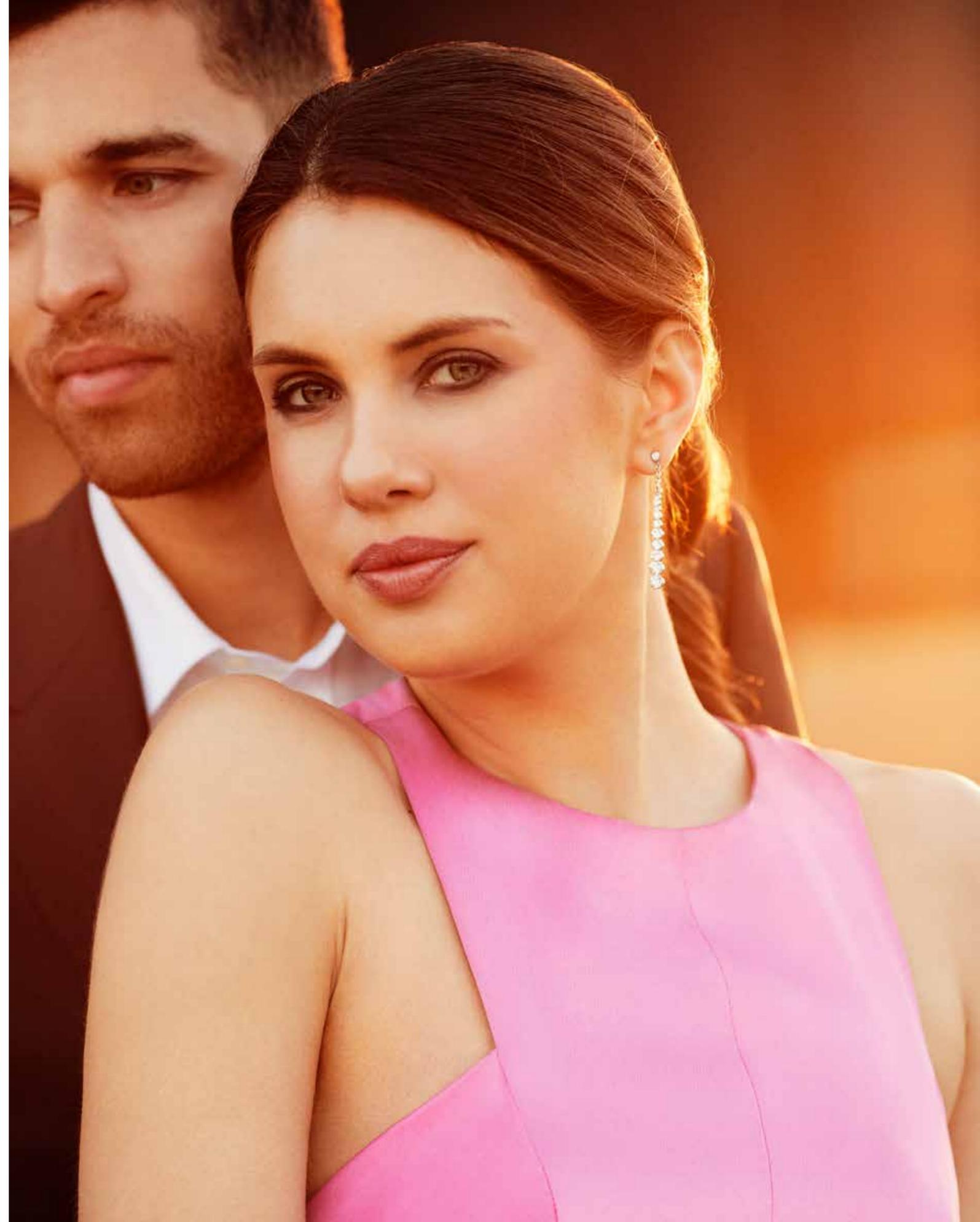


**THIS PAGE:**  
Jacket by Hackett, top and shorts by Oliver Sweeney

**PREVIOUS PAGE, LEFT:**  
His white shirt by Joseph, her dress by Catherine Walker, necklace and bracelet by Anjum Collection, earrings by Grace Lee

**PREVIOUS PAGE, RIGHT:**  
Dress by Kulkhareva London, bracelet by Anjum Collection

**OPENING PAGE:**  
Dress by Self-Portrait, shoes by Freya Rose, earrings by Alessandra Rich





**PREVIOUS PAGE, RIGHT:**  
Her dress by Catherine Walker, earrings  
by Alessandra Rich, his jacket by Gieves  
& Hawkes, shirt by Dolce & Gabbana

**PREVIOUS PAGE, LEFT:**  
Jacket by Trussardi, shirt by Paul  
Smith, sunglasses by MONG

**THIS PAGE:** Her cardigan by Missoni, top  
and trousers by Zaeem Jamal, shoes by  
Freya Rose, earrings by DRAJEE London.  
His jacket, trousers and shoes by Oliver  
Sweeney, his shirt by Hugo Boss

# SAVOY

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—  
*Fairmont*

# Edge of the world

In the sparse and wild Lofoton Archipelago of Norway, acclaimed English chef Valentine Warner is leading likeminded adventurers to reconnect to the wilderness and ingredients of their roots

words by  
Catherine  
McMaster



**PREVIOUS PAGE** The Lofoten Archipelago is known for its distinctive scenery with dramatic mountains and peaks, open sea and sheltered bays.

**THIS PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM FAR LEFT** Guests will stay in original fishermen's cabins on the shores of the Lofoten Islands; Chef Valentine Warner (left) will present three events at Holmen Lofoten during the course of 2019. It will be a unique experience to taste the cook's farm-to-table cooking; The cuisine is very much dominated by the surroundings, with cod, halibut, snow hares and tammigan being the focus

**NEXT PAGE** Guests will enjoy traditional Nordic cuisine, which will include cod, rabbit and duck, all cooked over the fire



**T**here's a definite trend of late; immersion; immersive cooking, experiences, food, holidays and relationships. We are no longer satisfied with a veneer of ornamental existence or luxury. Rather, we expect and demand to be exposed to the very raw fractions of life. How would we feel about hunting, catching and fermièring our own meat? A farm-to-table approach in which we, the consumer, are rigorously involved in the process, from conception to creation?

"I kill my meat, I use guns, I use fishing rods, these are kitchen utensils to me," says Valetnine Warner, acclaimed chef and BBC Cook.

"All cooking is the outdoors brought indoors. My hands are more in what I do – quite literally. I am a very visceral cook."

Warner is a culinary polymath: he's worked in numerous London restaurants (citing Alastair Little as his mentor), set up his own private catering company (Green Pea), owns and runs a distillery and starred in numerous BBC food programmes. Intriguingly, he's passionate about having an emotive relationship with food and sustaining an intimate and tangible link between the environment and the food it produces.

These two partialities have fused together to create *Kitchen On The Edge Of The World*, a programme, pioneered by Warner, which connects guests,

authors, creatives, foodies, chefs and bartenders in a holistic and culinary retreat located literally, on the edge of the world.

The Lofoten Islands are really as far habitually north as you can get; an archipelago community inside the Arctic Circle and subsequently utterly reliant and observant to the natural environment. These ingredients ensure that its inhabitants are respectful, mindful and synonymous with their settings.

*The Kitchen On The Edge Of The World* series is held here and run as a kind of 'Soho House' of the north by couple Ingunn Rasmussen and Trond Melhus. Honesty, generosity and humour are the pivotal ingredients to this retreat in which there will be three during the course of 2019, during which Warner will be displaying his stealth for hunting, foraging and subsequently cooking. The Kitchen On The Edge of The World will also host numerous acclaimed creatives; Mark Hix, Gill Meller and Nathan Outlaw are just some of the chefs who will be appearing.

"I cook with a sense of environment", explains Warner, "in Norway, the lambs go down the shorelines to eat. I find seaweed on the shoreline, I steam the lamb in the seaweed and on the way back I find some juniper berries and I cut bunches off while the lamb is being steamed in the

wood fire." The deep fjords surrounding the Lofoten Islands also boast some of the greatest fishing in the world and are a haven for the culinary curious like Warner.

"I am mad about fishing – fly fishing. There will be snow cod, particularly large species of cod which comes and mates up in the waters. The first retreat is based around cooking cod every day. In the summer it's halibut season, and in the autumn it's the game season with snow hares and tammigan."

The entire *Kitchen On The Edge Of The World* experience is based on the premise of immersion, but also initiating a conscious respect and mindfulness to the meat we consume and the environment we inhabit. It is this mindfulness that Warner wishes permeated more in our modern society: "I meet these people who are completely city conditioned," he explains. "Everything they relate to is through magazines and screens.

"Nature is our default setting, it's right here in our core. We are nature. What is wrong, in a way is that there's nature, and then there are humans. We have separated ourselves. We are nature too." A palpable way of forging this reconnection is through the act of hunting. Or, for the more faint-hearted, being emotionally involved in the purchasing and consumption of meat.

"Hunting is ancient hording, it's in our marrow. You don't ignore hundreds of thousands of years of something which has been fundamental to the reason why I am sitting here right now. It's just that what you hunt has changed.

"I am quite primal in a way. I will take a gun and walk out through the door. Other people might hunt Instagram followers, whatever it is there's a definite hunter/forager relationship."

Hunting and particularly foraging are gastronomic buzz words of late, but in the cascading snow-capped peaks and glaciers of the Lofoten Islands the concepts have real resonance. Here, in the isolated wilderness and sheltered sparse bay, inhabitants are truly at the mercy of nature. It's a humbling, enlightening and palpable experience and will not be kept secret any longer, if Warner can help it. **S**

*The four-night Kitchen on the Edge of the World programme in Holmen costs from £3,000 per person, including all meals, drinks and activities. [holmenlofoten.no/lgo](http://holmenlofoten.no/lgo). For details on how to get to the Lofoten islands visit [lofoten.info](http://lofoten.info).*



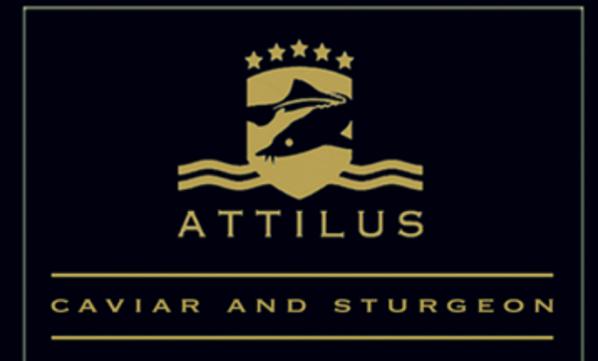
**All cooking is the outdoors brought indoors**



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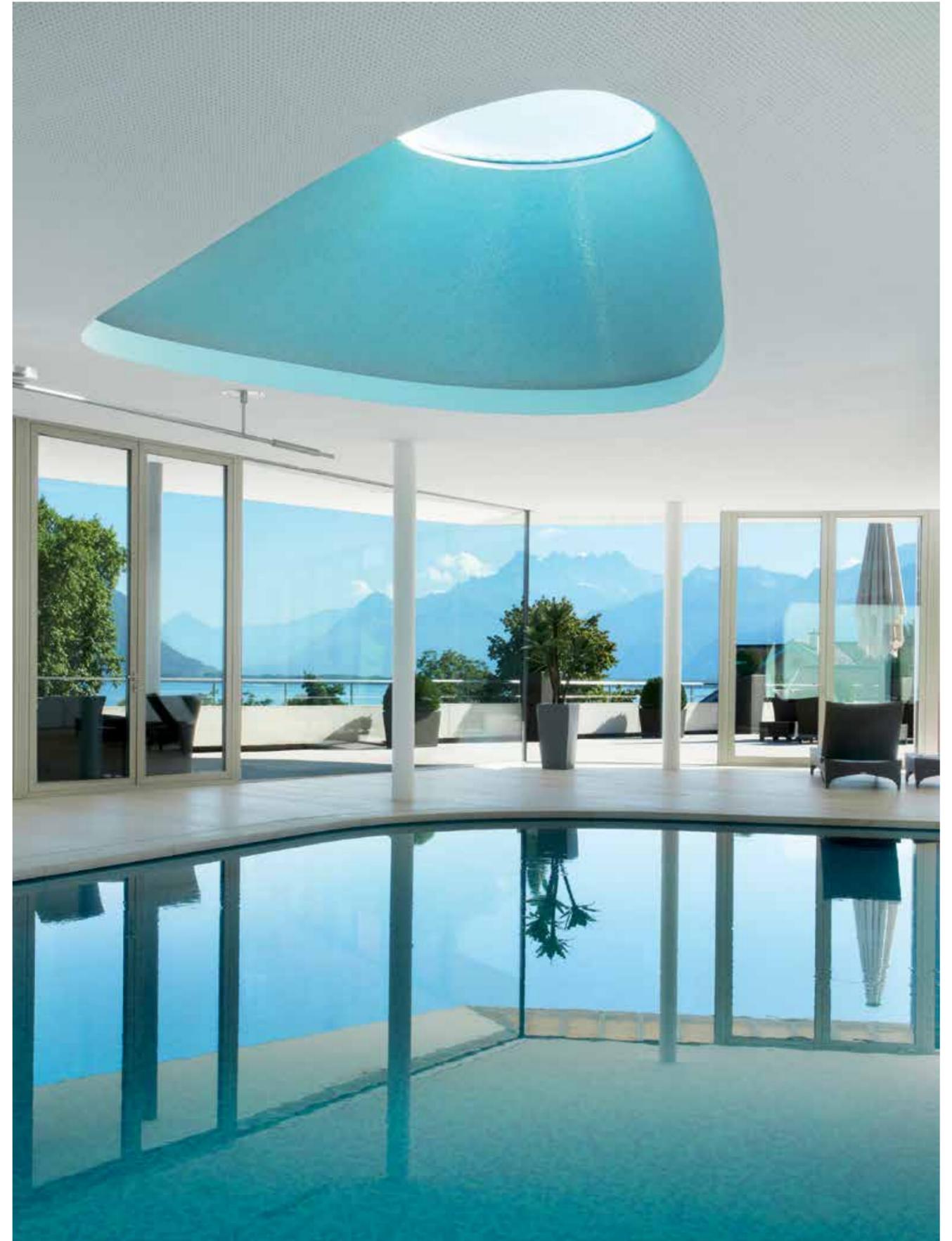


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# ...And breathe



With 'wellness travel' the buzzword du jour, Leo Bear takes a closer look at the Swiss maverick Clinique La Prairie, where clean air and state-of-the-art medical facilities combine to life-enhancing effect

**words by**  
Leo Bear



**PREVIOUS PAGE**  
The term 'wellness' roughly translates to, 'the state of being in good health and in particular having an active mind'. Clinique La Prairie fosters this connection through various activities and exercises, including a relaxing swim in one of their pools

**LEFT, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP** The retreat is located in the picturesque and serene Swiss Alps; guests enjoy a five-star luxury stay with relaxation at the core; health and healthy cuisine is paramount

**A**s growing evidence shows healthy lifestyle choices have a direct effect on longevity, looks and even your DNA, ostentatious travel with butlers proffering champagne and foie gras at every turn is becoming downright outmoded. Today's jet-set travellers are in pursuit of something much more gratifying: immersive experiences from which they emerge changed in some way. Improved. Welcome to the world of 'wellness travel'.

"Spending time at a holistic retreat to achieve a higher level of health has become a major driving force in tourism," confirms Anne Biging, founder and CEO of Healing Hotels of the World. "Although still in its infancy, wellness travel (which includes everything from weight loss, nutrition, spa and health) is growing at nearly twice the rate of other forms of tourism." In short, wellness tourism is a \$639 billion industry, and by 2022 it's projected to reach \$919 billion (Global Wellness Institute).

Hotels across the board are responding to demand with ever-more sophisticated initiatives to help guests live better. From COMO Shambhala in Bali to Chiva Som in Thailand and Vana in the foothills of the Himalayas, there's no shortage of long-stay retreats for wellness junkies to choose from, and leading the charge in Europe is Switzerland's Clinique La Prairie.

Located on the shores of Lake Geneva with spectacular views of the snow-capped Swiss Alps, it's been polishing the telomeres of the well-heeled since 1931 and has some of the most advanced medi-spa technology and expertise in the world.

Guests can enjoy gluten and lactose-free meals (marinated scallops with avocado, fennel, red pepper and chia seeds) from the comfort of a 24-room chateau filled with cream linen, parquet floors and hints of gold leaf, or settle into a more modern nine-room residence with immaculately tended gardens. This summer, for the first time, VIP spa-goers have the option of holing up in Clinique La Prairie's ultra-private chalet in Verbier. With five bedrooms, a chef, driver, on-site spa therapist and dedicated team of medical experts on call 24/7, it's the ultimate place to detox in snow-capped peace.

There are the usual programmes to choose from: weight loss, sleep improvement, detox and 'better mobility' – most of which require a six-night stay – but opt for the 'master detox programme', and as well as fitness classes, calorie-controlled meals and one-on-one consultations with handsome French doctors, you'll undergo genetic testing, heavy metal screening and full blood analysis. So far, so thorough. But what really sets Clinique La Prairie apart, is its pioneering methods in the field of cell therapy. A recent partnership with the Swiss Stem Cell Foundation allows guests to have their own stem cells extracted then re-injected in order to visibly reduce signs of ageing. It's high-tech eyebrow-raising work (literally) but if anyone's up to the task, it's got to be these Swiss pros. **S**

## 5 OF THE BEST IN EUROPE

### 1 SHA Wellness Clinic, Spain

A sleek modern wellness retreat that specialises in long-term stays (up to 28 days)  
*Best for: Those suffering from chronic stress and addiction*

### 2 Villa Stéphanie at Brenners

Park-Hotel & Spa, Baden-Baden. The 'couture' version of a cutting-edge medical spa. Just 15 rooms.  
*Best for: Weight loss (10-day programme)*

### 3 Stanglwirt, Austria

A snowglobe of a spa hotel with a focus on hydrotherapy. Wellness guru Gwyneth Paltrow is a fan.  
*Best for: Families (it has an indoor equestrian centre and on-site farm).*

### 4 La Réserve Geneva

Nescens' 'better ageing' programme includes sessions with osteopaths, nutritionists and personal trainers. Spa-goers can also make use of the hotel's Riva speedboat for shopping trips.  
*Best for: A full-body MOT*

### 5 Schloss Elmau, Bavaria

A castle-come-medical-centre that offers outstanding yoga retreats with visiting masters.  
*Best for: Culture vultures (it has a world-class concert hall)*



**ABOVE** Lake Geneva is known for its tranquility and untouched beauty

**FOLLOWING PAGE** The retreat champions a modern and sleek aesthetic, both inside and outside

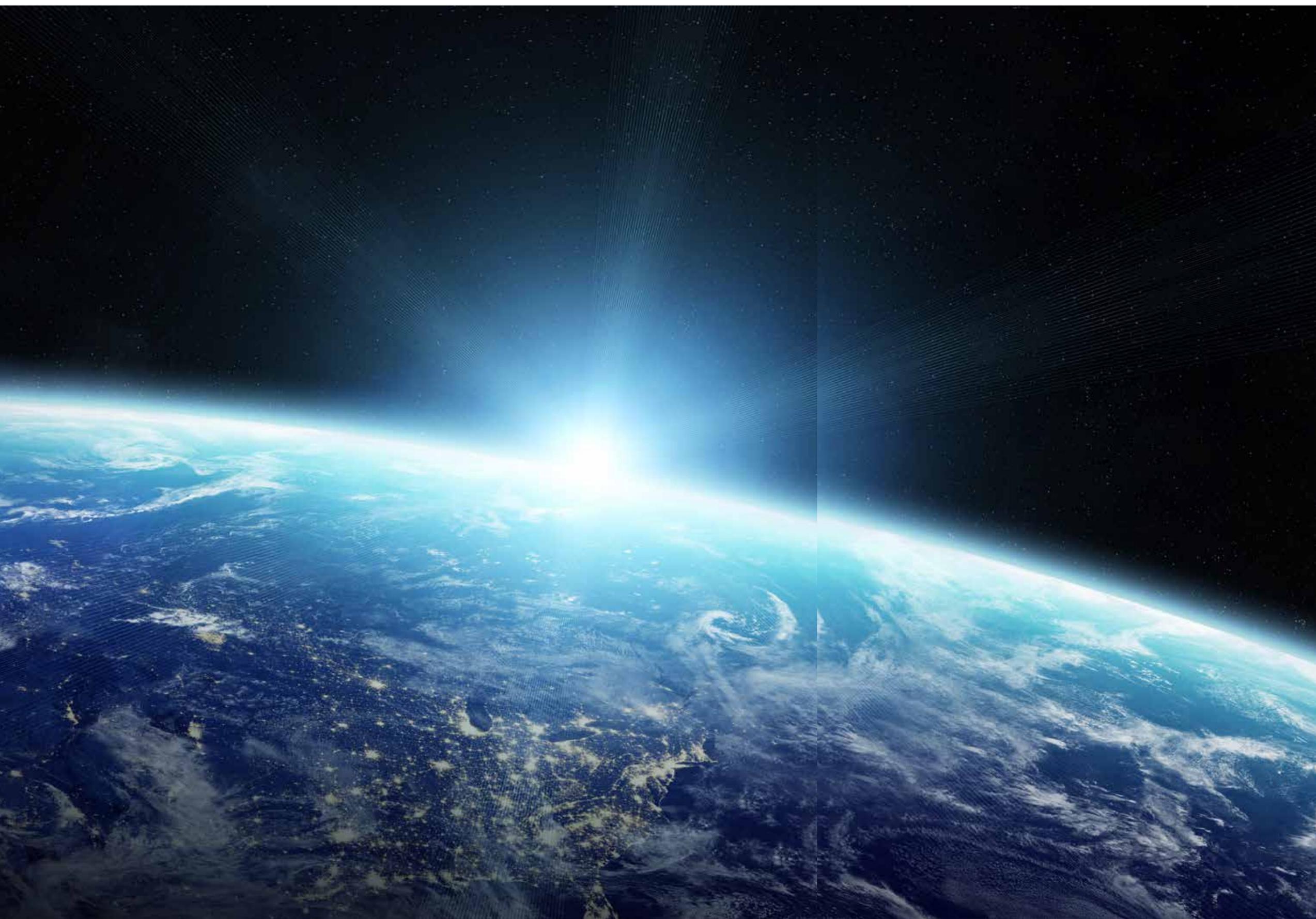
**Located on the shores of Lake Geneva with spectacular views of the snow-capped Swiss Alps, it's been polishing the telomeres of the well-heeled since 1931 and has some of the most advanced medi-spa technology and expertise in the world**



**“If we are to preserve culture we must continue to create it.”**

—Johan Huizinga

**Guests can enjoy gluten and lactose-free meals from the comfort of a 24-room chateau filled with cream linen, parquet floors and hints of gold leaf**



# INFINITY AND BEYOND

As our epicurean palate becomes ever more curious, we've ventured into outer space to try Michelin-star dining. We have Brown + Hudson to thank for this expedition

**words by**  
Alistair MacQueen

## You'll be lifting off at 4am from almost anywhere around the globe and ascending to heights far above that of any traditional aircraft

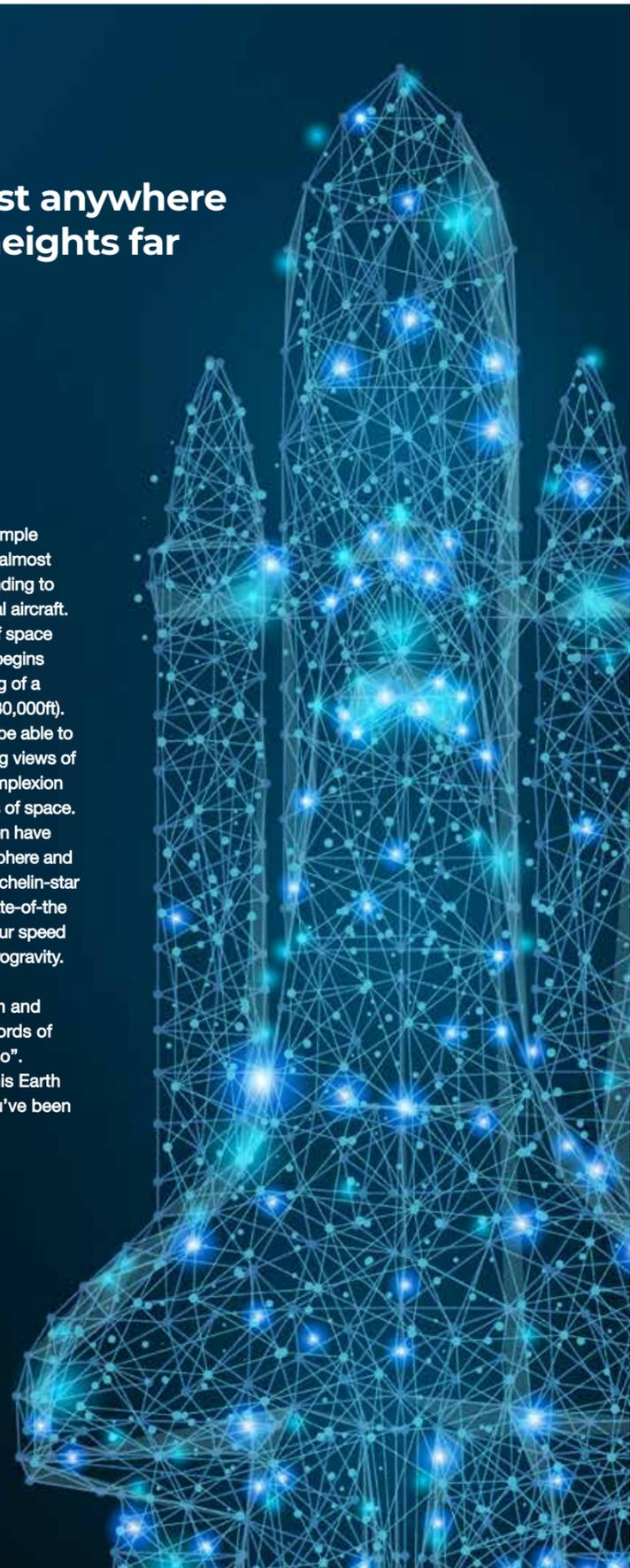
In the decades following humanity's first forays into space in 1961, mankind witnessed leap after leap in the field of space exploration: moon landings, lunar missions, the creation of an International Space Station and more recently, vehicles exploring the surface of Mars. For all of this progress though, it is still a very select few who get to appreciate the thrill of climbing aboard a spacecraft and experiencing the wonder of seeing the world from the heavens.

Recently, several entrepreneurs and innovators have tried to make space accessible to the masses. Take Richard Branson's Virgin Galactic programme - after several unsuccessful attempts, on 13 December 2018 its VSS Unity spaceship finally passed NASA's definition of space that is 50 miles above Earth. And he's not the only business mogul to investigate this avenue: Elon Musk's SpaceX programme is already working in partnership with NASA to resupply its space station, but his aims are to eventually colonise Mars. Likewise, Jeff Bezos' Blue Origin company is steadily working on commercialising space with philanthropic and adventurous zeal. For all these companies' endeavours, however, we are still some way from being able to go to space with the same facility (and price tag) with which we can get to Lake Como.

Fortunately though, Brown + Hudson, Bespoke Travel Operators have stepped in to fulfill this need for aspiring space travellers. Widely renowned for creating truly one-of-a-kind experiences, the company are offering the 'Near-Space Flight Tour' that allows you to indulge in your own galactic ambitions and long-held celestial desires after years of watching *Star Wars*, *Gravity* and *Space Cowboys*.

Like the experience itself, this is no simple jaunt. You'll be lifting off at 4am from almost anywhere around the globe and ascending to heights far above that of any traditional aircraft. In fact, you'll be heading to the area of space between the Armstrong Limit, (which begins at 60,000ft and so requires the wearing of a pressure suit) and the Karman Line (330,000ft). For a period of 12 whole hours, you'll be able to drink in the profound and awe-inspiring views of the Earth's curvature and cerulean complexion juxtaposed against the vast blackness of space. As your mission nears an end, you then have two choices: descend into the stratosphere and back to terra firma while enjoying a Michelin-star cuisine dining experience in your a state-of-the-art, self-contained pod, or increase your speed to experience a thrilling minute of microgravity.

Whatever your cosmic wishes, Brown and Hudson are in a position to, in the words of *Star Trek's* Captain Picard "Make it so". And then, after all that, any trip on this Earth will pale into insignificance when you've been so high above it. **S**



# Innovation, speed and daring HAWK 38

The Hawk 38, a brand new Sunseeker model is our most technologically advanced Performance boat ever

Words by  
Catherine McMaster



Sunseeker has returned to its racing heritage with the development, production and design of the Hawk 38, a streamlined and dynamic model which will whet the appetite of like-minded speed-enthusiasts.

High performance and innovation are the key ingredients to the new Hawk 38, which proceeded to clock 68.7kts (79mph) during its first prototype sea trial on Lake Como. Estimates for the finished boat with console, carbon fibre roof, deck mouldings and fittings remain 62-63 kts (70mph+); exactly as calculated.

The smoothness of speed and the addition of four Besenconi racing seats with shock absorbing mitigation allows for both comfort and safety for the occupants whilst enjoying high-speeds on the open sea.

Sunseeker CEO, Christian Marti, commented on the initial sea trial: "Extensive testing is now underway on the Hawk 38 prototype and we are thrilled with the results that she has now delivered on her first sea trial. Performance racing boats are in the brand's DNA and the Hawk 38 is our most technologically advanced performance boat ever - these results prove that we are the technical experts in this field."

At the time of going to press, the Hawk 38 was undergoing extensive sea trials back in the UK before its official press launch.

This new Fabio Buzzi design patented structural foam hull technology, combined with the inflatable Hypalon 866 STAB® tubes and Mercury 400R engines has proved immensely successful in helping to deliver an incredibly dynamic boat with exceptional turn-in.

Noticeably, even at maximum speed, noise and vibration are superbly well-controlled. This Sunseeker day-model reflects the brand's new step towards thrill-seeking and adventure. Performance, agility, lightness and rigidity are vital components to this new Sunseeker model reflective, in part, of the former Sunseeker XS 2000 series.

The Hawk 38 is sure to get international traction; it's the ultimate fusion of streamlined agility, creativity, comfort, speed and power. This boat is not for the faint-hearted, but then again, nor is the Sunseeker brand. Sunseeker is at the epicentre of British innovation and elevated manufacturing, and the Hawk 38 represents the brand's new push for thrill-seeking and adventure. **S**

From Friday 5 to Sunday 7 April 2019, a select group of men and women set out on a 600-mile journey through the Lake District in pristine and well-kept pre-war cars. The event? The Flying Scotsman Vintage Motor Rally

words by  
Amber Elias

# Great

# Scot!



**C**ruising through the idyllic Lake District National Park, you could be forgiven for taking a second (or third) glance at perhaps the most peculiar sight: a troupe of classic cars tearing along winding country lanes, each one in hot pursuit of the one in front.

This event is, of course, the 11th Flying Scotsman Vintage Motor Rally, an annual race where a select group of men and women set out on an approximately 600-mile journey through Northern England and up into Scotland.

The race is designed to celebrate the enduring quality of vintage motorcars and the real steam-powered Flying Scotsman train, and the craftsmanship these vehicles represent is visualised in the classic motoring adventure of the rally.

Built on the foundation that Philip Young, the Endurance Rally Association (ERA) founder, laid down a decade ago, the event is now in its 11th iteration, showing how popular it is for vintage cars and adventure enthusiasts.

The route is designed by Anthony Preston, who is also Clerk of the Course. Preston has set a unique route this year, which takes in all the best of what the Lake District and Southern Highlands have to offer. Each year of the Flying Scotsman Vintage Motor Rally has a different route, ensuring a special and distinctive journey across the UK. The rally prides its routes on being competitive but still accessible for everyone and anyone who wants to take part. Last year's 10th anniversary event saw the rally emulate the original route from its establishment in 2009, travelling from 'Brooklands to Edinburgh' – no mean feat in a car that could be 100 years old!

In 2019, the 11th edition Flying Scotsman started on the shores of Windermere in the heart of the verdant Lake District National Park, an area that has been awarded UNESCO World Heritage status. After climbing into the hills, the Northern Pennines live up to their 'Roof of England' billing by providing a series of flowing roads that snake their way down, giving drivers exquisite views across open moorland.

The route then headed north, with the first stop in Slaley Hall, Hexham. A highlight of this race is always the choice accommodation stops each evening, as the rally often selects exclusive manor houses, halls and private castles to host the drivers. Slaley Hall is no exception, and the property is frequented by the England National Football team when they are playing in the north-east of England making it the ideal stop for a sporting adventure.

The second day saw participants weave their way over the border into Scotland, by way of the fine B-roads for which Scotland is famed. Drivers and navigators then challenge themselves through the wild uplands of Dumfries and Galloway before stopping at Trump Turnberry resort, situated on the west coast of Scotland, looking out to the Isle of Arran.

Trump Turnberry began its life as the Station Hotel in 1906, and has had a long and spirited history that is reflected in the nature of the rally. Once a serviceable hotel on a main train line, it is now a premier golf resort, having hosted the British Open Championship four times since its inception. The golf course surrounds the Turnberry Lighthouse, which has marked the rugged coastline since 1873.

Adding to the dynamic and mysterious nature of the Scottish coastline is the island Ailsa Craig. Born from a volcano, it has been used since the 15th century under many secretive guises, but remains uninhabited today.

The final day of racing is designed to truly test driver and navigator, as they steer inland towards the scenic Trossachs before looping into the southern Highlands to skirt Loch Earn before the final run to the luxurious Gleneagles Hotel. The five-star hotel has been a regular jaunt for the 'Scotsman' set, and many a rally has finished with a drink at its heritage bar. Undoubtedly, the highlight of the rally is the Prizegiving Dinner, where winners are announced and last jokes are made.

One of the unique features of this race is the comradery enjoyed by its participants. As each day ends with a communal location, stories, successes and souvenirs are shared by teams well into the night and often early the next morning. Rivalries are born and lasting friendships are made on this course, evident by many participants returning year after year to compete and share their love of vintage classic cars and motor touring with like-minded enthusiasts. **S**



**Each year of the Flying Scotsman  
Vintage Motor Rally has a different  
route, ensuring a special and  
distinctive journey across the UK**





**Last year's 10th anniversary event saw the rally emulate the original route from its establishment in 2009, travelling from 'Brooklands to Edinburgh' – no mean feat in a car that could be 100 years old!**



# EXPERIENCE DARING LIKE NEVER BEFORE

*Hawk 38*





This spring, ensure that Costa Rica is on your travel radar. It's one of the most sustainable and eco-friendly holiday destinations on the planet. Claire Fitzgerald discovers the merits while holidaying in the dense Monteverde Reserve

words by  
Claire Fitzgerald

**Time to**

**travel ECO**

**PREVIOUS PAGE**

Costa Rica really is the place to watch. It's one of the most eco-friendly destinations in the world

**THIS PAGE, BELOW**

Around a quarter of Costa Rica is made up of rain forests

**FOLLOWING PAGE,**

**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP** Manuel Antonio National Park; a suspension bridge deep in the jungle; the island boasts extraordinary biodiversity including unique native birds



**S**eclusion is relative – in 2019 more than ever. The classic image might conjure an open sea, a sandy beach, or a mountainous spa. But in Costa Rica – rugged, unspoiled and covered in rainforests – seclusion reaches new vistas of escape. With its beautiful jungles and cascading waterfalls, if you want to reconnect with nature, there's no destination better suited: and, this spring, there are a range of luxury options that are responding to travellers' increasing desire to travel ethically.

“Around a quarter of Costa Rica is protected by national parks and reserves – and it's home to 5% of the world's biodiversity, so it's a fantastic place for eco-adventures,” says Jane Dunford, the Guardian's Travel Editor, who last year travelled to Costa Rica in October with her niece for a proper 'eco-adventure'. “There's an incredible amount of wildlife crammed into a relatively small space.” In fact, even before the current trend for sustainable travel has spread, Costa Rica has long been one of the most eco-friendly destinations in the world. The country's government has led the charge for investing funds into extensive national parks and protected areas. What's more, so you know exactly what you're getting, the government grades lodgings for sustainable practices.

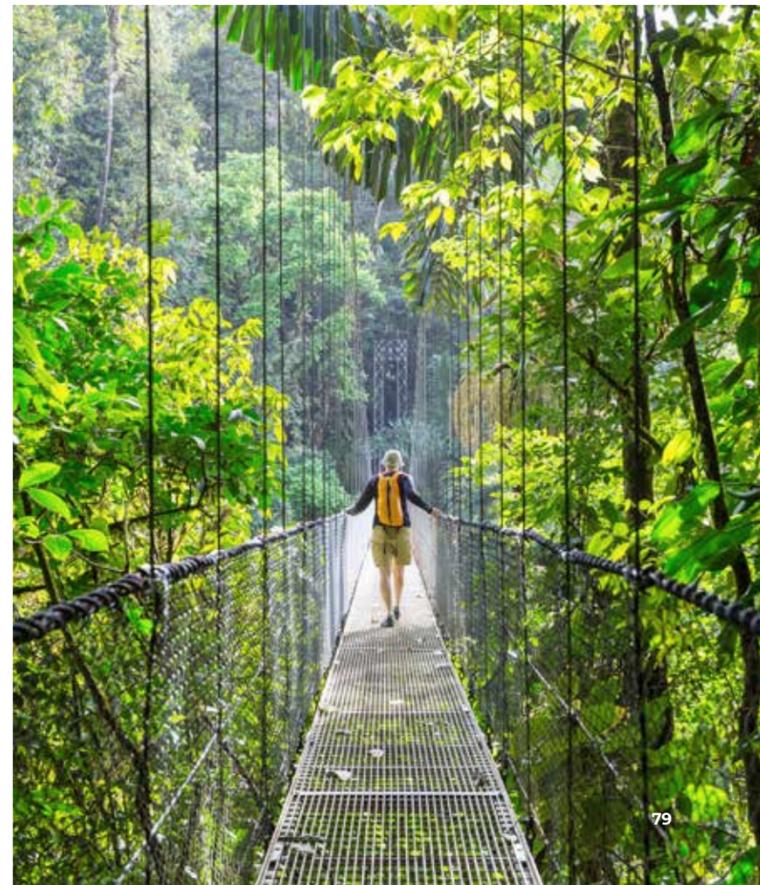
Boasting extraordinary biodiversity across every inch of the island – other than the sloths and monkeys that swing through the trees, there are an amazing 1200 different varieties of butterflies, for starters – it can be difficult to decide where to stay. First stop for many, after flying into the capital of San Jose, is the La Fortuna area, with its Arenal Volcano and various hot springs; from there, it's not far to the coniferous cloud forests of Monteverde. Not for the vertically faint-hearted, here you can explore the misty, moist forests, and all the animals who dwell there, along suspension bridges that take you right to the heart of the action: amazingly, the Reserve consists of 6 ecological zones, 90% of which are unspoiled, virgin forest. Next, you can head south to Manuel Antonio, with some of the most beautiful beaches in the world, coral reefs and a wildlife-stuffed National Park. But the true nature-lovers' playground

is in Drake Bay, in the Osa Peninsula, where the country's most rare species congregate: here, in what National Geographic dubbed ‘the most biologically intense place on earth’, you'll hear howler monkeys as your wake up call, swim under sparkling waterfalls, and maybe, if you scuba dive in the Caño Island Biological Reserve, catch white-tip reef sharks swimming oh-so-casually past.

For true immersion you can look to Costa Rica's boom of luxury eco lodges, found tucked into nature all over the country. Many of the best known are found in Osa, such as the Lapa Rios Lodge: a 1000-acre reserve of 16 bungalows at the Peninsula's tip, dedicated to preserving the area's precious tropical flora, all while allowing visitors an authentic deep-dive into the rainforest. “(The founders) wanted to show that “no matter how you cut it, a tree standing is worth more”, says Hans Pfister, president of the Cayuga collection of ecolodges, of the lodge's original American founders, who were former members of the Peace Corps. “They wanted to bring upscale travelers (to the area), and teach them about conservation – (to) make a difference.” This conservation mission extends to social impact: with luxury rates, you can actually hire more staff and pay them better, and Lapa Rios works with Earth Equilibrium, a local nonprofit, to provide educational and living facilities for the local community. From relaxing in the salt-based pool to hiking through the forest with switched-on naturalists as your guide, there's a sense of untold discovery at every corner.

Elsewhere in Osa Peninsula, the thatched roof bungalows of Luna Lodge combine wellness touches like on-site yoga and a luxurious spa, with a similar commitment to raising awareness about the rainforest. Papagayo Peninsula, in the northwest Guanacaste province, is also worth consideration: for one, Four Seasons has a lodge there, with a recent revamp further enconcing itself as one of the country's chicest havens. Standing among a jungle isthmus surrounded by ivory-sand beaches, you can't beat it for location. There are also noteworthy options further inland: not far from the Papagayo Peninsula, nestled

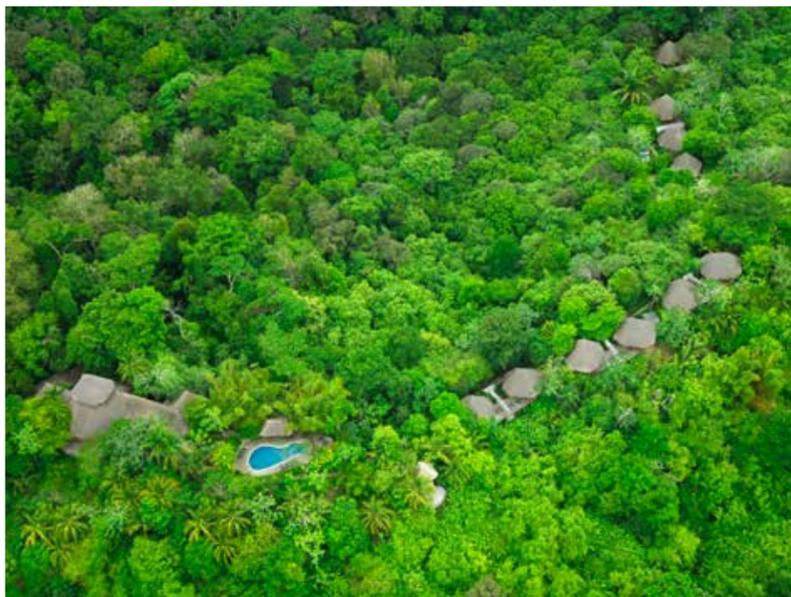
**Around a quarter of Costa Rica is protected by national parks and reserves – and it's home to 5% of the world's biodiversity, so it's a fantastic place for eco-adventures**





LEFT, FROM TOP  
Lapa Rios; Four  
Seasons

at the foot of the Miravalles Volcano among dry forest, the Rio Perdido ecolodge offers irresistible natural hot springs, an internationally acclaimed open-air restaurant that sits 160 feet above a river, and for more adventurous guests, mountain biking trails and a white-water river ripe for extreme tubing.



Ultimately the best feature of Costa Rica's new generation of ecolodge, is that through their preservation of acres of land, you can be at a touching distance to these tropical habitats like never before: utterly embedded in species-rich rainforests, while totally at your ease about leaving only footprints when you go. For Dunford, the question of the impact you are leaving as an individual should be the guiding principle of any eco-adventure. "Of course travel can never be zero impact, especially if it involves flying," she admits, "But in Costa Rica, the local operators seem to take wildlife protection seriously. Taking a raft, kayak or boat trip down one of the many rivers is one of the best ways to get close to the wildlife with little impact – we saw caiman, sloth, iguana on the shore just metres from the raft." However you choose to travel through it – whether among misty jungles, cool rainforests, active volcanoes, or idyllic sandy beaches – being in a country this naturally beautiful makes anything but ecologically responsible travel feel more urgent than ever. **S**

**“Man cannot discover new oceans unless he has the courage to lose sight of the shore.”**

—Andre Gide

**For true immersion you can look to Costa Rica's boom in luxury eco lodges, found tucked into nature all over the country**



DESIGN MATTERS BY DAVE MARSH

## Bespoke – part II

Dave Marsh, our resident yachting industry expert discusses bespoke interiors inside a Sunseeker yacht

Sunseeker's aim with its Bespoke service is to provide its owners with a free hand to turn their myriad boating dreams into a reassuringly solid reality. Although the first chapter of our two-part Bespoke feature recognised that the interpretation of bespoke does vary enormously from boatbuilder to boatbuilder, within the bounds of reason, Sunseeker's goal is to grant its owners real flexibility within the design of a series-production yacht. This can be by way of personalised layouts or by tailoring the interior styling, materials and furniture; or even by taking advantage of both areas of customisation. However, this process is very much a team effort, with Sunseeker's design team working closely with each and every owner to achieve their dream.

One such project is the recently launched 131 Yacht called Exodus. The head of interior design in Sunseeker's Bespoke office is Stuart Jones, and in order to reacquaint himself and his team with the owner and his family's lifestyle, and identify their prevailing views on style and functionality, the initial meeting took place in the owner's recently restored house.

"The owner's house is exquisite," states Stuart. "Every element of the house is special: glamorous, exciting, a surprise at every turn. The aesthetic of every space compliments its functionality, so our challenge was to ensure that the owner's yacht was equally as impressive: a place to socialise and entertain, yet with a twist at every turn."

Customising the interior design to suit the personal way that each individual owner uses their boat is also key. As Stuart points out, "the interior of a yacht is not always the place where an owner will spend the most time when they are enjoying life onboard with their family and friends, the fun to be had in and around the outside spaces can put paid to that! When this is the case, we can afford to be more ambitious inside the yacht with materials and detailing and finishes; we're adding drama and theatre to what is frequently an evening space."

On M/Y Exodus, the interior is truly bespoke; there is not a single interior finish that has been seen before. Wall linings are genuinely one-off and the carpets were designed exclusively for the yacht, with varying natural tones depending on their location. The interior metal finishing trim is textured to add visual interest and a degree of opulence, whilst every piece of fitted or loose furniture is completely bespoke. Even the ceiling finishes are unique, with the dining area lighting pendant designed personally by Stuart.

Another distinct 131 Yacht called M/Y Elysium has recently been shortlisted for the 2019 World Superyacht Awards. On this yacht, the personalised layout and the equipment specification was the focus of the owner's attention. The entire upper deck aft of yacht's main bridge was reconfigured to incorporate a roomy master stateroom, a private en-suite bathroom, a dressing room and a Technogym. This space has direct access to the lower helm, to an extended private deck, and to the Skydeck above, which has its own exterior helm and spa bath. The foredeck even incorporates a sizeable plunge pool which affords complete privacy wherever the yacht is moored.

Elysium's owner sounds like a happy man, enough to cheerfully maintain that "a large part of my yacht's success is due to the Bespoke service that allows owners to vary the interior and exterior configuration". Elysium is a place in Greek mythology where favoured heroes were conveyed by the gods after death, but given that it was Stuart and his Bespoke team that allowed the owner to fulfil his every boating wish, and not the Greek gods, I suspect the name actually came from its other broader definition; 'a place or state of perfect happiness'. S



**Our challenge was to ensure that the owner's yacht was equally as impressive; a place to socialise and entertain, yet with a twist at every turn**

**PREVIOUS PAGE**  
The opulent interiors of M/Y Exodus

**THIS PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT**  
M/Y Elysium offers ample interior space; the bathroom area of M/Y Exodus; M/Y Elysium even offers workout space; a comfortable and covetable bedroom is paramount to M/Y Exodus

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**GAGGENAU**

# SAIL IN THE MED

As the weather warms, the Mediterranean 'heats' up. Sunseeker Charters promises sun kissed luxury on these beautiful shores

**words by**  
Alice Hopkins

**T**urquoise seas, enchanting scenery and alluring towns make up the visual banquet that is the Mediterranean. Rich in culture with the promise of warm summer sun, it's no surprise as to why these are some of the top charter destinations in the world.

Sunseeker Charters produce a unique experience for you and your guests to make the most out of the warm waters, historic sights and azure skies of the Mediterranean. Gracefully float between the paradisaic islands and coves and let the crew do the work for you, there's so many locations for you to choose from. With its balmy summer weather, beautiful picturesque beaches and the jet set glamour of the Côte d'Azur, it's easy to understand why the South of France is so highly regarded in luxury travel. The Balearic Islands, comprising of Mallorca, Menorca, Ibiza and Formentera, allow for copious possibilities; untouched beaches, plentiful diving sites and beautiful traditional towns, something for every guest and every mood. If you desire total relaxation, perhaps a trip to one of the local beach clubs. Take a

tender ashore to enjoy the luxurious sunbeds beside the pool and soak up every last bit of glorious sunshine.

The islands of Corsica and Sardinia each possess their own characteristics and charm. The French island of Corsica boasts a beautifully diverse and natural landscape, all best experienced by yacht. Sardinia benefits from the perfect combination of crystal-clear waters, a series of coves and rocks and an array of colourful cliffs emerging from the seabed. Offering such a varied experience to its guests, it's clear to see why these neighbouring islands are so popular.

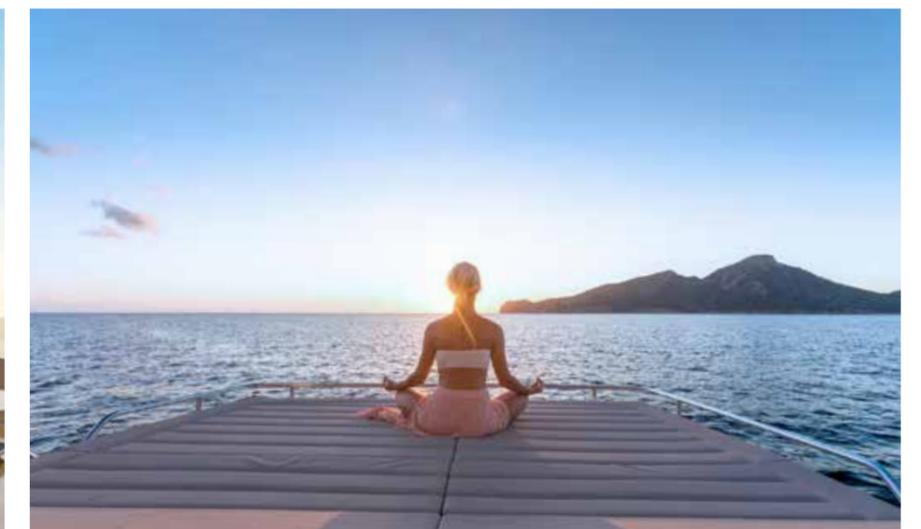
The Mediterranean is famous for its natural beauty including her sun-kissed beaches; perhaps you'd like to explore the rocky shores on the Dalmatian coast of Croatia, or the beautiful coves of Spiaggia Rosa in Sardinia, a pink sandy beach only accessible via yacht. But the natural wonders don't stop at beaches, cruise in style around the Aeolian Islands, where you can spend some time enjoying the tranquil waters and admiring the

active volcanos of Stromboli and Vulcano. If you fancy a dive, take a trip to Dwejra Bay in Gozo, well known for its dramatic coastal formations and dive-sites.

The Mediterranean's zest for the finer things continues into the food; irresistible foods and wines will leave your mouth watering and your thirst quenched. Pizza in Italy, tapas in Spain, pastries in France or grilled meats in Greece, there's something to please every palate. As well as this, the warm climate and agricultural techniques mean the Mediterranean produces a wide array of decadent wines you won't find anywhere else.

With a stunning selection of yachts lying all throughout the sunny Mediterranean, Sunseeker Charters offer tailor-made luxury experiences, with the proficiency and knowledge to exceed your holiday expectations. Why settle for less? **S**

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# In remembrance of Robert Braithwaite

Robert Braithwaite, one of the founders of Sunseeker International, a true entrepreneur and pioneer of the leisure marine industry, passed away in Dorset on the 7th March 2019 having recently fought Alzheimer's. He was 75 years old

words by  
Bryan Jones

Robert Braithwaite was born in Hinkley, Leicestershire in May 1943 to Idris and Sybil Braithwaite. His interest in boating was sparked by the family's early holidays to Windermere in the Lake District where they owned a dinghy fitted with a little outboard motor.

Growing up, his parents ran a successful drapery business in Otley, Yorkshire but it was Robert's frequent ill health as a child that persuaded them to move nearer to the south coast in the late 1950's. Robert stated in later years that it was, "funny how my sickness helped to make me successful". Soon after moving, Robert's father bought a 12-foot Tod dinghy from local businessman John Macklin. The little Tod transformed Robert's life, as he'd never been on the open sea before and loved it.

Robert's father eventually went into business with Macklin in 1960. That was the beginning of Friar's Cliff Marine, a small boat sales operation selling several foreign brands, which included Owens cruisers from the USA. Idris asked Robert (then 16) to join, and thenceforth the boat business became Robert's life.

Initially, Robert worked as an engineer on outboard motors. However, when Owens ceased operation in Europe, Robert suggested that rather than sell, they should build their own boats instead. Robert's first boat was a sporty 17-foot boat named 'Sovereign', and so the boat building business began.

In 1969 the company relocated to a waterside location in Poole and aptly renamed themselves, Poole Powerboats. By this time, John Braithwaite – Robert's boat-mad younger brother – had joined the company. John went on to become Design Director, retiring only last year. Boat production was ramped up with 20' and 23' models initially launched. Innovations were legendary and included race-derived hulls, the latest propulsion systems and on-board tender garage. Cutting-edge design, incredible boat show exposure, novel marketing campaigns and a total focus on quality and customer service delivered ever-growing sales to a discerning clientele. Sales dealerships began to be appointed around Europe and in 1985, Poole Powerboats was renamed 'Sunseeker International'.



The Sunseeker name also attracted EON Productions, the producers of the Bond movies. Sunseeker boats have starred in various Bond films, with Robert making a cameo as James Bonds' boat driver in Quantum of Solace.

As Robert at the Sunseeker helm as Managing Director, the company grew from strength to strength. In 2013 Sunseeker sold to Dalian Wanda Group, which allowed Robert to take a more ambassadorial role, a position he relished.

Despite its humble beginnings, Sunseeker now employs c.2,600 people and build boats, yachts and superyachts from 38 to 161 feet. These are sold through a network of 120 sales and service locations in 74 countries.

Sunseeker has evolved from being a brand to a true British icon. To own a Sunseeker has become an aspiration for many. For, when only the best will do in luxury and performance, Sunseeker provides it - via a worldwide network of approved Sunseeker distributors. Today, this extensive family of retail offices spans the globe and brings immediacy of service to a world-class brand - a brand driven by the pursuit of perfection.

Robert not only held the position of Chairman of the British Marine Federation on three occasions, he was also made a 'Freeman of the City of London' by the The Worshipful Company of Shipwrights and was Deputy Lieutenant of Dorset. He was also awarded an MBE and later a CBE in recognition of his contribution to the marine industry, not to mention numerous Queen's Awards for Enterprise for the wider business.

He always shared his success and was a generous philanthropist, notably donating a vital new £3.5million da Vinci robot to Poole Hospital to support advanced keyhole surgery for cancer patients; the only hospital in the country, and one of only a handful in Europe with access to such pioneering technology.

Robert was a pivotal contributor to the global marine industry. He was inspirational to anyone who met him, recognised as a pioneer, a maverick, a true visionary; he changed the face of boating forever.

Famously, Robert is quoted, "when I was young I was told it was impossible to have a career in boats. I guess I proved them wrong." **S**



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# Sunseeker Product Range



**161**  
YACHT



**131**  
YACHT



**116**  
YACHT



**95**  
YACHT



**86**  
YACHT

**76**  
YACHT



## Yacht Range

As beautiful as it is vast, a Sunseeker Yacht has style and space in abundance. A masterpiece of design and engineering, each is built for extended cruising, comfortably accommodating those who want to get away from the everyday. It represents a new standard in design and a new level of exquisite craftsmanship



**74**  
SPORT YACHT

### Sport Yacht Range

A notable presence in any water, every Sport Yacht is a statement of intent. Hidden beneath an awe-inspiring profile are performance and sophistication in their purest forms. Inside, an outstanding level of comfort awaits both owner and guests. Practical and powerful, each is a classic example of Sunseeker design ingenuity



HAWK  
**38**

### Performance Range

The heritage of the Sunseeker brand is unparalleled; built on a legacy of developing performance racing boats, we are the technical experts in this field and it lies within the brand's DNA. The technologically advanced Performance range is at the cutting-edge of what's possible - experience daring like never before



PREDATOR  
**74**

PREDATOR  
**57**



PREDATOR  
**50**



### Predator Range

Breathtaking acceleration combined with exquisite styling, The Predator range is a rare breed. An instant head-turner, the blend of precision craftsmanship and cutting-edge design ensures the fastest Predator models achieve speeds of 40 knots. Uniquely styled, thoughtfully crafted, a Predator will never go unnoticed



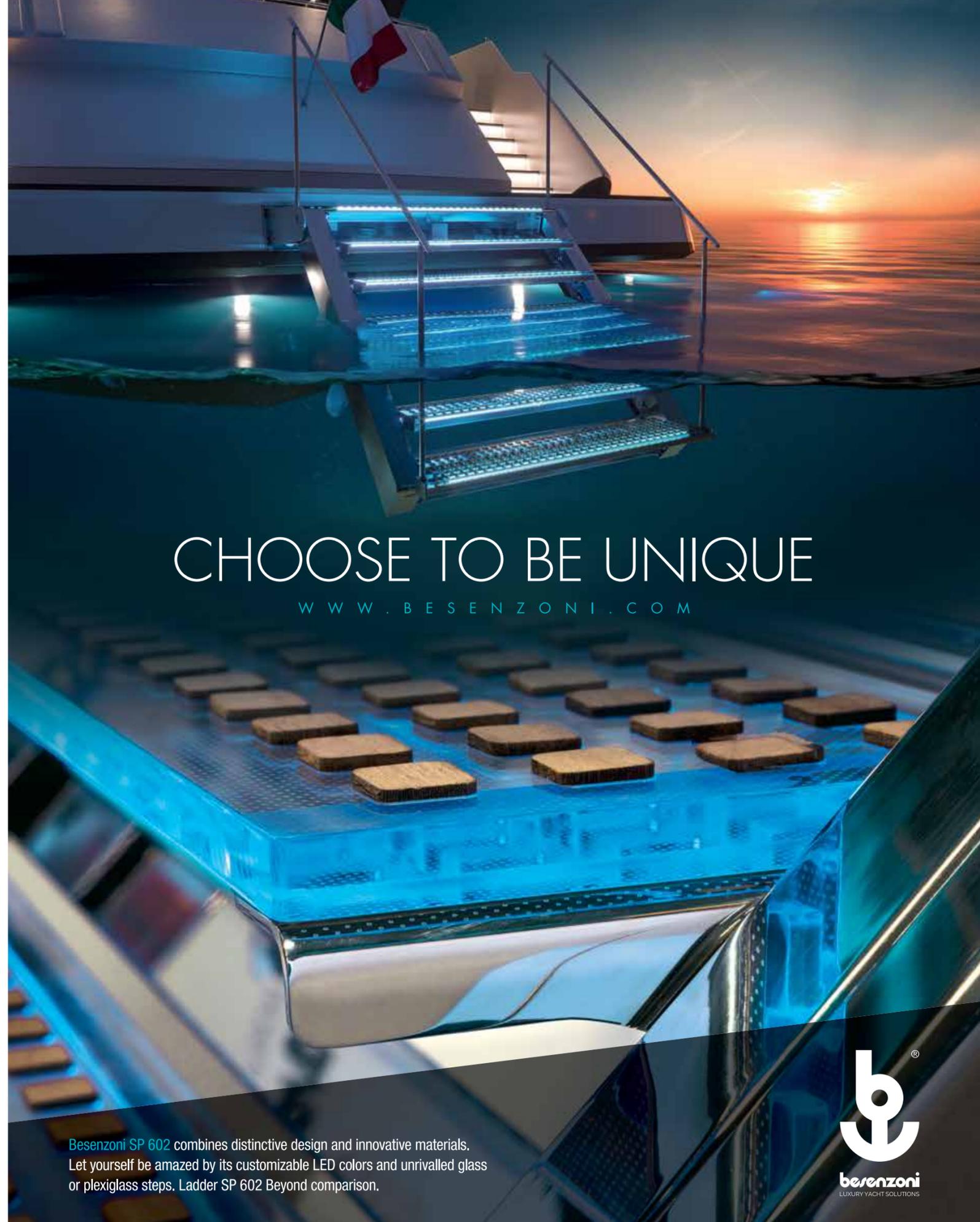
MANHATTAN  
**66**



MANHATTAN  
**52**

### Manhattan Range

A benchmark in ingenuity, the versatile Manhattan range combines space with impeccable styling. From bow to stern, cutting-edge technology and fine furnishings feature throughout. Made for entertaining and styled to seduce, the Manhattan offers a truly unforgettable experience



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