

WANT IT? FAIR

SPECIAL
REPORT

The 2013 NEW ESTABLISHMENT!

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"If you understood
everything
I said, you'd be me."
—Miles Davis

JAYZ

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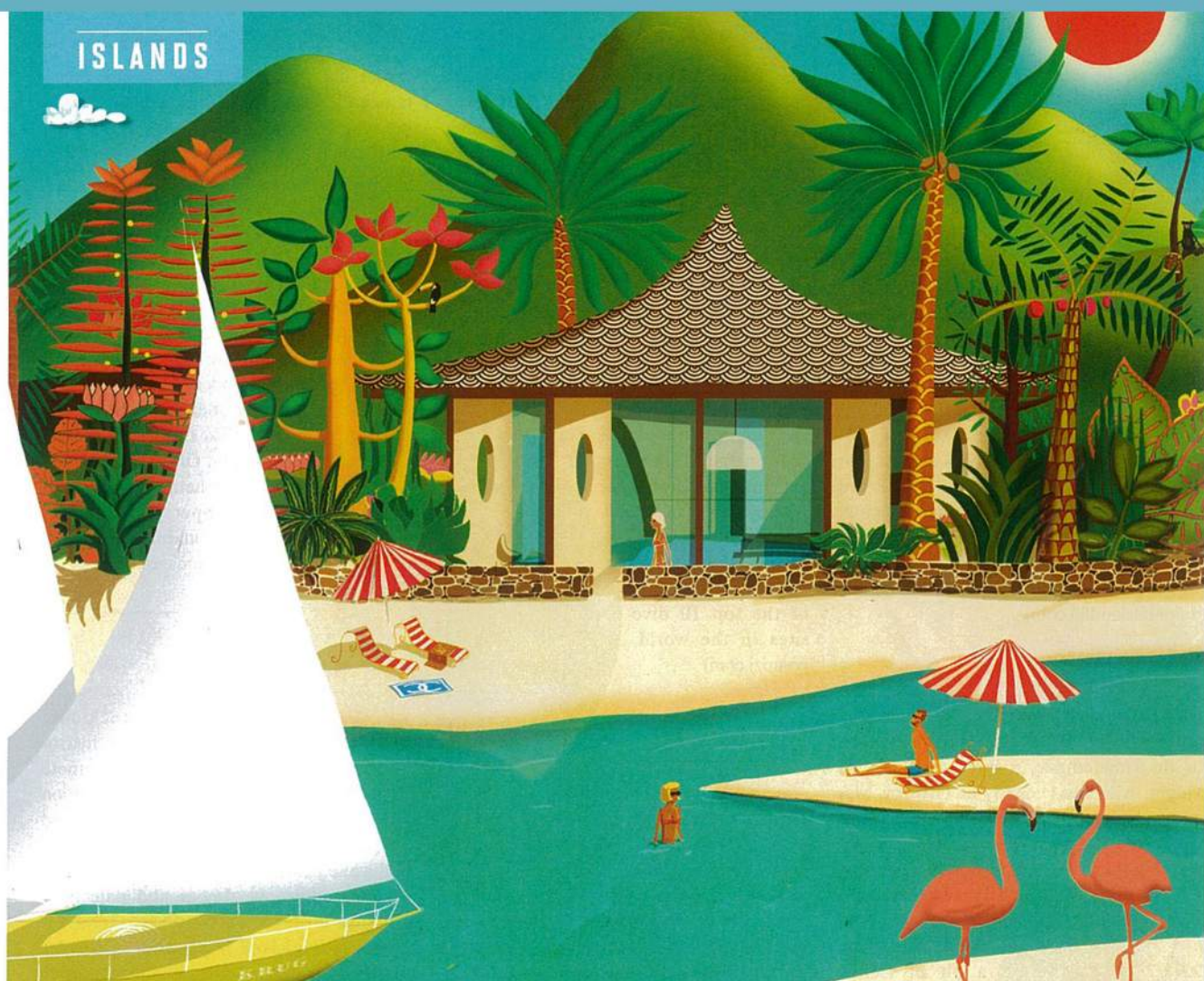
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NOVEMBER 2013



TREASURED ISLANDS

Yo-ho-ho and bottle of Dom Pérignon! X marks the spots where you'll find the world's loveliest private-island getaways

By ALICE B-B

MAKEPEACE ISLAND, AUSTRALIA

Who could resist a heart-shaped island? Certainly not Richard Branson, who's added Makepeace—a 10-minute boat trip from Noosa Heads—to his collection of swish hideaways. The place sleeps 22 in Balinese-inspired villas and there is a rumour that Branson is tempted to rename it "Make Love Island". Which may explain the numerous bedside copies of the *Kama Sutra*. (makepeaceisland.com)

SATELLITE ISLAND, AUSTRALIA

You are never alone on Satellite Island; deer roam the pastures while quail, pheasants

and sea eagles cruise about. The island is in the D'Entrecasteaux Channel in south Tasmania. Explore the terrain on foot or—if you're feeling brave—take to a kayak for views of Bruny Island, followed by a picnic on the pebble beach and a glass of Tassie wine. (satelliteisland.com.au)

MOYO, BALI

There are two types who visit the wild Balinese hideaway of Amanwana and its 20 souped-up tents: fat cats and their sprawling families, and fawning honeymooners. But thankfully there's plenty to distract from the latter. Moyo is a nature and marine reserve,

hence the stellar snorkelling and diving on the reefs of the Flores Sea—hungry work that earns you a proper English tea with biscuits. Make sure you tie up your hair for a sunset walk to the bat cave, followed by a black Borneo body scrub in the open-air Jungle Cove Spa. (amanresorts.com)

SONG SAA, CAMBODIA

With 7.1 billion people on Earth, it's increasingly rare to be the first to try, well, anything. Enter Song Saa. It's not simply a new resort, it's a never-before-treaded destination—the first of a 27-island archipelago to be developed. The devil is in the detail,

thanks to the unwavering vision of owners Rory and Melita Hunter, from the upcycled interiors—including oil-drum chandeliers and train-sleeper floors—to the Khmer food. And then, of course, a stone's throw away, there's the beach: five miles long and as unspoilt as you could wish for, unlike the guests. (songsaa.com)

DOLPHIN ISLAND, FIJI

Following the success of Huka Lodge in New Zealand, the double act of owner Alex van Heeren and interior designer Virginia Fisher strikes again with Dolphin Island. This 14-acre pleasure ground sleeps just eight in four *bures* (Fijian wood-and-straw huts). And after fishing for coral cod or—if you venture farther out—for trevally and mahi-mahi, you can cruise the waters in a catamaran and play with the... you guessed it, dolphins. (dolphinislandfiji.com)

ÎLE DE CHANTEMESLE, FRANCE

Just 30 miles northwest of the French capital, in the middle of the Seine, sits the 25-acre Île de Chantemesle, a spot where Claude Monet, who lived locally at Giverny, was inspired to pick up a brush. The villa on the island is squishy-sofa-and-old-French-artwork comfortable, with a pool, tennis court and farmyard. And if you're craving a bit of Céline shopping or tea at Angelina's, Paris is just a quick sail upstream. (+33 688 966 195)

LI GALLI, ITALY

A cluster of three little private islands just a speed-boat ride away from a bellini in Positano. Soaked in Greek mythology and once owned by Rudolf Nureyev, the cottages are decorated in Moorish style and have been visited by Ingrid Bergman, Sophia Loren, Jackie Kennedy and other top glamour-pusses. (bellinitravel.com)

CHEVAL BLANC RANDHELI, MALDIVES

Does the Maldives need another resort? LVMH seem to think so, as this autumn they make their second foray into *hôtellerie* (the first was Cheval Blanc, Courchevel). Expect socking great villas (the doors are seven metres high), knockout scoff at five different restaurants, plenty of Chevy B wine to guzzle and a concept store filled with limited editions from the LVMH brands. And a private

trunk show of the latest Dior haute couture collection if you fancy it. This is Maldives meets Bond Street for the insatiable consumer. (chevalblanc.com)

VAMIZI ISLAND, MOZAMBIQUE

It's mostly a European guest with a sense of adventure who gets the wild African island of Vamizi. There's no hiding from nature here—giant coconut crabs, troops of samango monkeys and turtles scurry about their business as you decide whether to kayak up the estuary at Muntu Nkulu, go fishing for dogtooth tuna or swim in the millpond-like lagoon in front of the lodge. Alternatively, you could take a dip beneath the waves at Neptune's Arm—hailed as one of the top 10 dive sites in the world. (vamizi.com)

LITTLE ISLAND LIGHTHOUSE, NORWAY

For total peace Nordic-style, look no further. A boat trip (sou'wester-type gear is on hand) from the small fishing village of Vinje, followed by nearly 300 steps up to the two sparse but cosy double rooms, dining room and library, the lighthouse is in the middle of the sea, beyond the Arctic Circle. In winter the weather can be properly dramatic, so buy open plane tickets, as there's a chance you could get stuck. And take plenty of Sarah Lund-style sweaters for orca-spotting and nights spent hoping to catch the Northern Lights. (littleislandlighthouse.com)

ARIARA, PHILIPPINES

The point of Ariara is that it's not a resort. You can only rent the whole thing, so for the time you take it this 125-acre island, 160 miles southwest of Manila, is all yours. There are masses of toys, including six different boats to mess about on, one of which, *Karenjoy*, is a 100-foot Filipino fishing boat with five double bedrooms. Despite being fully staffed (30 employees for a maximum of 18 guests), the vibe is as informal as you want. And the only other person you're likely to see is the fisherman... bringing you lobster for lunch. (ariara.island.com)

NORTH ISLAND, SEYCHELLES

It's not new, but North Island remains the benchmark for the world's best Robinson Crusoe experience for spoilt brats. Celebrating its 10th year, the 11-villa resort has had a spruce-up, but the extraordinary wildlife (rays,

turtles and the rare Seychelles magpie-robin) remains in this scuba Mecca and famed royal honeymoon spot. Don't even try to resist the mini-bar stuffed with homemade lemongrass ice-cream. (north-island.com)

TAGOMAGO, IBIZA, SPAIN

You've done a villa on Ibiza, done the boat thing, done Formentera... so what's next? Tagomago, a super-slick private island off Ibiza's northeast coast. Flanked by cliffs and hidden coves, with modern interiors and, of course, a stonking sound system, this is the way to do flash with no one watching. Oh, and the island has a helipad, so they'll chopper you in from the mainland. (island-tagomago.com)

RÅGSKÄR ISLAND, SWEDEN

Fly from Stockholm by helicopter or hydro-plane and arrive at remote Rågskär, where third-generation owner Björn Åkerlund is host, amid simple but comfortingly Scandi decor: blue-and-white checked tablecloths, whitewashed tongue-and-groove timber and pale light piercing through the windows. Great for greenies, the island is powered with solar and wind energy, and the food is *seriously* local—try the grilled fillet of freshly caught perch or the eel, smoked for seven hours by Åkerlund himself. (ragskar.se)

MNEMBA, TANZANIA

A picnic on the beach? Pah! So old *chapeau*. At Mnemba—a tiny atoll off the east coast of Zanzibar with just 10 discreet bandas to its name—a proper dining room is sculpted from the sand (you need to see it for the full impact) ready for a sunset seafood feast and Zanzibari coconut curry. The coral reefs complete with giant turtles, dolphins and ghost crabs is an underwater paradise for dive nuts. (mnemba-island.com) □

