

# High Life

WHERE IN THE WORLD TO TEE OFF  
GOING WILD WITH THE MASAI IN KENYA  
SEA CHANGES IN THE MALDIVES  
FASHION-FORWARD BRITISH ORIGINALS

Emma

Corrin

brings the  
drama  
to the  
Reykjanes Peninsula

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THE STYLE AND SPORT ISSUE





HOTELS  
OF  
THE  
MONTH



● LESANTE BLU AND  
LESANTE CAPE  
ZAKYNTHOS, GREECE

Beautiful, bountiful Zakynthos, the largest of the Ionian islands, is what you might call *echt* Greece. Rustic, green and serene, with millennia-old olive trees, ancient turtles and blue caves, it's no wonder the Venetians called it the 'flower of the east'. At its heart is Lesante Blu (above), so named as the sea is never out of view. Here, 92 suites pamper romantic couples with a spa, luxury dining and, in many cases, private pools. Such are its charms that the owners wanted to offer families the same five-star abundance. Enter flower-filled Lesante Cape, which opened last year and is styled like an uber upmarket traditional village to showcase island life at its finest. A church, bio farm, museum, vineyard, coffee shop, endless bars and three superb restaurants are enhanced by a private beach, sumptuous spa and five tempting pools. Flirt with water sports, pick your own produce for a farm-to-fork cookery class or head out for a pottery lesson at Hanne Mi Ceramic Art Studio or to explore the National Marine Park.

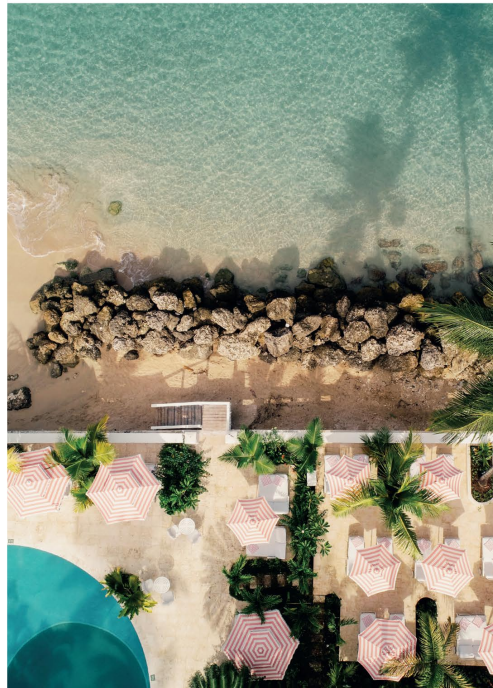
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● COBBLERS COVE  
BARBADOS

On the island's west coast, arrive to a welcome as warm as the Bajan air, and a rum punch that's just as inviting, as you wind through a palm-lined garden path to your supremely spacious rooms. Inside a Royal Circle suite, expect French doors that open directly onto the ocean or garden, a tranquil library, and a sitting room adorned with rattan furniture and vibrant artwork – a taster of this family-owned hotel's colourful charm. Head to the coral pink exterior and plantation shutters of the Great House, built in 1943, for delightful dishes such as cinnamon French toast and lobster tagliatelle, plus the local legend that is Banks beer. On your way to the pool, discover vintage maps of the island, parrot-shaped lamps and the resort's main aesthetic: chic pink and white stripes. These are found on everything from beach towels to the private speedboat waiting to cruise guests to their own beach in a turquoise paradise after a rum tasting.

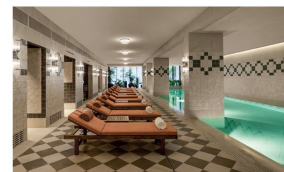
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● STRADOM HOUSE  
KRAKOW, POLAND

In between the Jewish Quarter and Old Town (a Unesco World Heritage Site), this former 14th-century church and monastery is more than a historic-meets-happening hotel: it's the hangout spot for the hottest European creatives, from celebrated music journalist Piotr Metz to prominent photographer Katarzyna Sagatowska. Designed by the same company behind Soho House – Stradom also has its own private members' club – the most impressive part is chapel-turned-bar Hedwig's, where a grand chandelier made of glittering glass cylinders and balloon-like balls might even stop the DJs in their tracks (names include Poland-famous Mike Konstanty). The light and fresh fare is also a showstopper, proving Polish food isn't all about meat and carbs: Gaia serves up Mediterranean-inspired dishes (the *chraimeis* is a must), while head chef Diana Olechnowicz masters fine seafood dining at John Dory (a tasting menu highlight is the calamari, tomato and strawberry salad). Continue wellness wanderlust at Sól spa, which features a salt sauna, sound room and 14°C crypto bath.

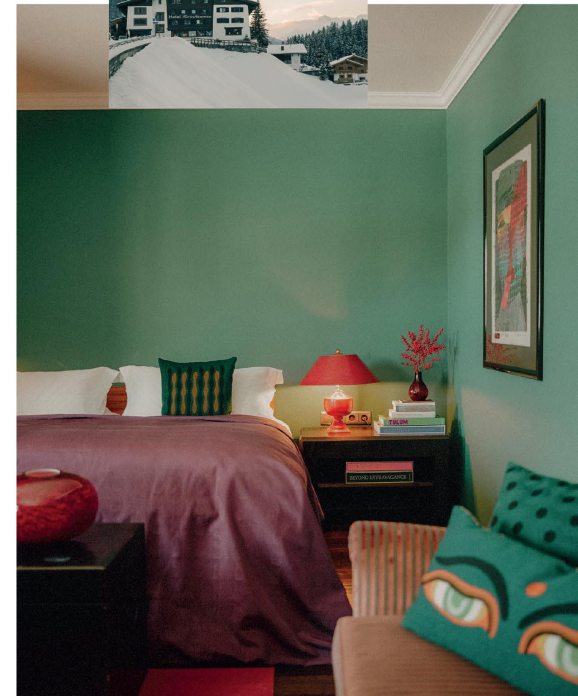
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[autographhotels.com](http://autographhotels.com)



● KRISTIANA LECH  
LECH, AUSTRIA

The epitome of storybook luxe, Lech arouses a certain kind of loyalty – some of the hotel guest books in this small village have been signed by the same families for decades. But for anyone still wondering where to pledge their allegiance, we have just the place. Built by Olympic champ Othmar Schneider, Kristiana Lech was originally a party pad for the who's who of high alpine society (see also: the Schneider family friends), and the après-ski soirée vibes remain just as intact. Nowadays, though, it's daughter Gertrud Schneider who rules the roost. Her gift is a special ability to make a five-star operation feel like a place where you can kick off your boots. She also lays claim to a world-class art collection and a top-of-their-game team, particularly GM Robert Szymczyk and wunderkind chef Malcom Praun. Just watch – once you find your favourite of Kristiana's 29 individually designed rooms, you'll be returning for years to come, too.

B&B from £539pn. [kristiana.at/en](http://kristiana.at/en)



Words: Bryony Coleman, Hannah Ralph, Jon Wiggins, Agatha Zarzycki