

HIGH LIFE

November/December 2022 23 HOTSPOTS FOR 2023, ISTANBUL'S EVOLUTION, STARGAZING, PLUS PATERSON JOSEPH FINDS PEACE

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2022
SICILY NEW YORK PORTO ST LUCIA MALLORCA MALDIVES GENEVA BUDAPEST SAN DIEGO NYKONOS WHISTLER VERBIER IRELAND VIENNA PARIS ALGARVE BARBADOS



Dynamic duo

Stealing scenes with Bill Nighy and Aimee Lou Wood in Toronto



GOLF HOTELS

Top-notch resorts where what's outside is as important as what's inside, these pioneering golf destinations pair championship greens with fine dining, sports facilities and a superior spa scene. May the course be with you...

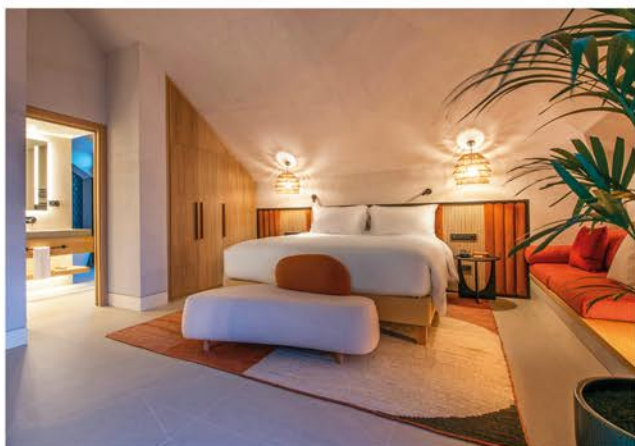


THE MICHELIN-STARRED CLUBHOUSE

ABAMA, TENERIFE

Abama bags three of Tenerife's six Michelin-starred restaurants, while The Dave Thomas-designed course is something of a dish itself, with 25,000 palm trees and eye-wandering Atlantic views of. Swing kings can also swap irons for rackets on seven tennis courts graced by the ATP and ITF tours. Spent? Relax in your luxury residential property or serviced holiday accommodation, or enjoy The Ritz-Carlton, Abama Hotel, which offers infinity pools (yup, plural), a Sanctuary London spa, a kids' club and fancy boutiques. ba.com/abama

Getting there: ba.com/tenerife



THE BIG-NAME NEIGHBOURHOOD

SOTOGRADE, SPAIN

A Costa del Golf (Sol) institution since 1962, Sotogrande brought a redefined Swinging Sixties to southern Spain. Expect country-club living: the renovated SO/ Sotogrande enlivens an Andalusian farmhouse with statement interiors (above), while deluxe residential properties sit in gated communities with concierges. But the jackpot is its proximity to top courses. Of 70 in the region, the 27-hole Almenara is on site. Drive 15 minutes to tick off Perry Dye's San Roque Club, Cabell B Robinson's La Reserva Club and Real Club Valderrama. ba.com/so-sotogrande

Getting there: ba.com/spain



THE GREEN STAR

OMBRIA RESORT, ALGARVE, PORTUGAL

Opening in spring in remote hills, Ombria Resort does all kinds of 'green' well – putting greens, eco credentials and views of fig trees and citrus groves. Jorge Santana da Silva's 18-hole golf course is GEO Certified, just one of many sustainability wins, including an organic farm, a plant nursery and honey bees. Substance meets style at the five-star Viceroy at Ombria Resort, with a spa, six restaurants, a kids' club and solar-heated pools, while the first residential villas, townhouses and apartments hit the market in early 2023. ombria.com

Getting there: ba.com/algarve





THE JACK NICKLAUS DOUBLE ACT

MONTE REI, ALGARVE, PORTUGAL

You likely don't need a little birdie to tell you about the course at Monte Rei (*Golf Digest's* 27th best in the world). With one Jack Nicklaus Signature masterpiece under its belt – all wide fairways, water features and ruthless bunkering – the 1,000-acre Portuguese resort has begun constructing its second. Once it's completed, Monte Rei will be on an exclusive list of clubs to boast a Nicklaus double whammy. Other talking points include Michelin-starred Vistas Rui Silvestre and new Clubhouse Residences with views and all comforts. monte-rei.com

Getting there: ba.com/algarve



THE HOTELS-IN-ONE HOTSHOT

COSTA NAVARINO, GREECE

Costa Navarino serves big-hitter holes and hotels in Messinia. Four courses sit within 13km: The Dunes by Bernhard Langer, The Bay by Robert Trent Jones Jr, plus two by José María Olazábal. Post-round respite takes many fine forms. For frequent returnees, Costa Navarino Residences (above) are the natural choice. For couples, The Romanos, a Luxury Collection Resort has 128 infinity pools. The Westin Resort suits families and W Costa Navarino is uber cool. And Greece's first ever Mandarin Oriental arrives in spring. ba.com/costanavarino

Getting there: ba.com/greece



THE NEWEST PGA NATIONAL

KILADA, GREECE

It might not open until early 2023, but Kilada is already stealing the limelight, being one of only ten PGA National Resorts in the world – alongside Gleneagles and The Belfry. What's so great? A Jack Nicklaus Signature 18-hole championship course helps. Then there's its location above a fishing village in Porto Heli (aka The Hamptons of Greece) in 235 hectares of olive groves and rolling hills. Oh, and throw in a beach club, residences (90 are available in the first drop), and a five-star hotel opening in phase two of development. mykilada.com

Getting there: ba.com/greece



THE ONE THAT PUTTS NATURE FIRST

APES HILL, BARBADOS

Among 475 acres of tropical vegetation, look out for cheeky Barbados green monkeys making cameos. Facilities reopened in November after a transformation project poured \$15m – and Ron Kirby's expertise – into the golf offering. Expect upgrades to the par-72, 18-hole championship course, a par-3 nine-hole course and the Caribbean's only performance/teaching centre. A sneaky 19th lake-island hole makes an ideal/brutal challenge for settling a tied game. Luxury villa accommodation is to follow in December 2023. apeshill.com

Getting there: ba.com/barbados





THE CITY-COUNTRY HYBRID

LIMASSOL GREENS, CYPRUS

Cyprus's most anticipated development won't open until winter 2024, but there's plenty to inspire you to hit the driving range now. Designed by HKS Architects (behind many new Four Seasons resorts), it will offer lake-side tranquility, as well as proximity to the shops/restaurants/history/buzz of Limassol. But what about the golf? The 18-hole championship course designed by Cabell B Robinson will feature ponds, pot bunkers, sand dunes and wetlands. There will also be a wellness centre, spa, villas and townhouses. limassolgreens.com

Getting there: ba.com/cyprus



THE PURIST'S PICK

PORTMARNOCK HOTEL & GOLF LINKS, IRELAND

While the ocean-side course has had sensitive upgrades since its 1995 inauguration, Portmarnock's charm is that it remains true to its roots. The dunes dictate the layout: elevated tees and greens, blind approaches, doglegs, and the expletive-inducing Irish sea breeze. The 18-hole course was Bernhard Langer's first links design, and he made a classic. After the action, recline in The Jameson Bar or the Elemis spa. You're 15 minutes from Dublin airport, but the scenery and seclusion feel otherworldly. portmarnock.com

Getting there: ba.com/ireland



THE OPEN ICON

TRUMP TURNBERRY, SCOTLAND

The Firth of Clyde views are magnificent and the hand-carved beds sumptuous, but the Ailsa course is the real reason for gracing Turnberry. A par-71 Scottish legend, it has held four Open Championships, was refreshed in 2016 by Mackenzie and Ebert, and is known for opening holes that cross the pain-pleasure barrier. Undeterred? There's also another 18-holer, King Robert the Bruce, and the nine-hole Arran to sharpen your short game. Rooms ooze Edwardian-era glamour, while the newly zhuzhed spa boasts an infinity pool and a sauna. turnberry.co.uk

Getting there: ba.com/scotland



THE BIG DADDY

PINEHURST, NORTH CAROLINA, USA

You can count on the Americans to go large – Pinehurst has five places to stay and *nine* golf courses. No.6 is for XL drives (thank/curse designers George and Tom Fazio), No.9's chunky fairways and undulating putts make a Jack Nicklaus classic, while No.2 is the megastar – already booked for the US Open in 2024 and beyond. Designed by Donald Ross in 1907, it was brilliantly revamped by Bill Coore and Ben Crenshaw in 2010. There's also an 18-hole family putting green and nine-hole The Cradle, dubbed the most fun ten acres in golf. pinehurst.com

Getting there: ba.com/usa