



elite traveler

THE PRIVATE JET LIFESTYLE MAGAZINE

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The Suites Issue

THE MOST
OPULENT,
FANTASTICAL
AND DOWNRIGHT
DECADENT TOP
100 SUITES IN THE
WORLD

Contents



112
Step back to the 1930s at Alcron Hotel's signature restaurant in Prague

Inspire

56 Top suites

Synonymous with luxury, the 20th edition of our Top 100 Suites list showcases accommodations that are jam-packed with extravagant amenities, incredible features and standout service

86 Top jets

The business jets pushing the boundaries of speed, and the developmental aircraft that will be achieving supersonic flight in the near future

Explore

98 Top hotel buyouts

The epitome of privacy and luxury, our selection of the most impressive hotel buyout options

108 Destination guides

Whether you're road-tripping through Utah or lapping up culture in snowy Prague, look no further than our guides

116 The hot list

A three-day golf immersion program at Scottsdale National (right), teeing off in Uruguay and a jewelry master class in one of England's finest hotels

124 Property

Escape the winter with these beach houses, or embrace it in all its alpine snowy glory in these mountain retreats

128 Flight of fancy

Raise a glass in an infinity pool above the clouds in Switzerland



56
Magnificent views from the Three Bedroom Royal Mountain Villa at Oman's Anantara Al Jabal Al Akhdar Resort

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Elite Traveler's Top Suites Database

The newly launched Top Suites database is the definitive tool for researching the best hotel accommodations on the planet. Constantly updated throughout the year, and presented alongside stunning behind-the-scenes images, descriptions and luxury rankings, the database lets you search for your next hotel stay using over 60 different criteria including size, bedroom number, privacy and access.

Elite Traveler Launches Top Jets Database

An authoritative and extensive database of current private jet models on the market enables you to search using over 50 luxury data points such as interior length, cabin volume, landing distance, range and number of passengers to choose the perfect jet model for your traveling needs.

INSPIRE



Anantara Sahara Tozeur Resort

Otherworldly views over the Chott el Djerid — the salt flats on the edge of the Tunisian Sahara Desert — are just some of the reasons this suite made our ‘Top 100’ this year; read on for 99 more. *Page 56*

Page 56 Top 100 suites Our annual feature of the best accommodations on the planet. Explore the timeless classics that wrap you in the certainty of their years of experience delivering unwavering five-star service, alongside hidden gems that are reimagining a new wave of luxury. **Page 86 Top jets** If you want to get somewhere fast, safe and with as little fuss as possible, these are the jets for you. And look out for our nod to the future — supersonic business jets.

The Rosewood Hong Kong's
exceptional Harbour House
swimming pool

Top 100 Suites

Here at *Elite Traveler* HQ, we're old hands at compiling the top 100 suites in the world; we've been doing it for 20 years, after all. But we're never content resting on our laurels, so this year, we've done it a little differently: Each and every suite in this list has been put through a vigorous vetting process and has been given a luxury score based on strict criteria across a whole host of luxury metrics. Bulletproof glass, butler service, in-suite spas? Check, check, check. With entries from the top hotels on the planet, it's been no mean feat trying to feature just 100 in these pages (keep your eyes peeled for the full list at [elitetraveler.com](https://www.elitetraveler.com) in the form of a handy searchable database featuring suite images, luxury scores and booking shortcuts), but here they are — the best of the best.

by Kim Ayling, Samantha Coles,
Thea Halstead, Sophie Killip
and Alex Martin



EUROPE, MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA



▲ Adare Manor, Signature Suite

LIMERICK, IRELAND

Housed in a grand Neo-Gothic manor house, Adare Manor is steeped in history and dates back to the 19th century. The one-bedroom Signature Suite pays homage to the manor's lengthy life with original 19th-century art and historical tapestry adorning the walls, and Georgian-inspired furniture. The suite spans over 1,000 sq ft and has a private sitting room and a flawless bathroom with extra-deep soaking bathtub and rainfall shower. If that's not enough to invoke feelings of calm, the views through the huge windows surely will: The suite looks out over the formal French gardens, the flowing River Maigue (look out for frolicking otters), and the Tom Fazio-designed golf course. *Samantha Coles*
Best feature Service of a dedicated 'manor butler'
From \$4,176 per night. Contact Deirdre Moloney, reservations manager, dmoloney@adaremanor.com, +353 616 052 00, adaremanor.com



▲ Shangri-La Bosphorus, Shangri-La Suite

ISTANBUL, TURKEY

A dreamlike cocoon of sumptuous furnishings and Ottoman stylings, the Shangri-La Suite in Istanbul is the place to stay on the Bosphorus Strait. Occupying almost half of the top floor of the Shangri-La Bosphorus, it has two palatial master bedrooms, each with a private terrace and marble-clad bathroom with mirror-embedded television and heated floors. There is a separate living room with a terrace, plus a fancy dining room. Wake up to a traditional Turkish breakfast served in-suite, or head out on a bespoke city tour in a chauffeured Rolls-Royce. *Samantha Coles*
Best feature Three balconies with views across the Bosphorus Strait
From \$25,100 per night. Contact Esra Yoksulabakan, sales manager, esra.cekirge@shangri-la.com, +90 212 275 8888, shangri-la.com



▲ Armani Hotel Dubai, Armani Dubai Suite

DUBAI, UAE

The Armani Hotel, found in a cosmopolitan downtown neighborhood and within the Burj Khalifa, is not what you'd expect: It's a calming oasis in the city, with a decidedly understated and subtle vibe. The Armani Dubai Suite is a cool two-bedroom pad with the most spectacular views across the city and the desert beyond from the floor-to-ceiling, panoramic windows (be sure to watch the light show at the fountains below come nighttime). The suite has a fully equipped gym with yet more brilliant views, study, and living and dining areas, all awash in muted gold tones, natural materials and glossy lacquered surfaces. If you're in town for some retail therapy, the hotel has its own entrance to the Dubai Mall. *Samantha Coles*
Best feature Interiors created by Giorgio Armani
From \$8,200 per night, contact Mark Kirby, general manager, reservations.dubai@armanihotels.com, +971 488 838 88, armanihotels.com



▲ Anantara Al Jabal Al Akhdar Resort, Three Bedroom Royal Mountain Villa

AL HAJAR MOUNTAINS, OMAN

Simply one of the most astounding locations, this Anantara resort is perched high on the Al Jabal Al Akhdar range, on the edge of a vast canyon. Watching the sun set here while the scent of Damask roses drift through the air is one of those pinch-me-I'm-dreaming moments, and there's no better place to take it in than from the sublime Three Bedroom Royal Mountain Villa. The villa is set away from the other accommodations but blends in with the otherworldly surroundings. It has a private entrance, garage and a helipad (although in such a remote location, privacy is already pretty much a given). In the villa, you'll be greeted with a bottle of Moët and have a traditional (and super-relaxing) foot massage. The villa's decor has charming Omani touches, much like the rest of the hotel: Think intricate carvings and lamps across the two floors. *Samantha Coles*
Best feature Infinity pool and alfresco dining area that overlooks the canyon
From \$6,500 per night. Contact Siraj Memon, director of sales and marketing, smemon@anantara.com, +968 933 262 53, anantara.com



▲ Anantara Sahara Tozcur Resort & Villas, Royal Villa

TUNISIA

Find this Anantara hotel in the seemingly endless Sahara, and bask in the serene stillness of this mystical landscape. A remote location and privacy do go hand-in-hand, but the Royal Villa pretty much guarantees it — it's set on the edge of the main resort so no other guests will pass through, and no other accommodations overlook the villa's outdoor space. The villa looks out over the hallucinatory salt flats at the edge of the Tunisian Sahara Desert known as Chott El Djerid; the three bedrooms have mesmerizing views, as do the terrace and pool deck. There is a dining room, full kitchen, library and living room, and an additional villa adjacent to the Royal Villa is available for your entourage. *Samantha Coles*

Best feature Utter privacy and views of the Chott El Djerid
From \$4,000 per night. Contact Jesús Juan Arnedo, general manager, jarnedo@anantara.com, +216 293 470 00, anantara.com

▼ Shambala Private Game Reserve, Nelson Mandela Villa

VAALWATER, SOUTH AFRICA

You're unlikely to find a villa with as much African historical significance as the Nelson Mandela Villa. The anti-apartheid revolutionary spent many years in this very villa, and it is where he wrote his memoirs and held many vital meetings with fellow political leaders. The five-bedroom house is found within the Shambala Private Game Reserve (Shambala meaning 'paradise on earth') and has a dining room with a 14-seat table, living room, two lounges, two studies, business center and boardroom, plus a separate wing for staff. The inviting indoor/outdoor swimming pool is on a viewing deck that overlooks a watering hole. The villa, and indeed the rest of the camp, is rich in authentic African design: intricate beadwork stitched by the women of local communities, Leadwood tree structures and a carefully curated African art collection. *Samantha Coles*

Best feature Indoor/outdoor swimming pool overlooking a watering hole
From \$5,700 per night. Contact Conrad Meyer, lodge manager, reservations@saxon.co.za, +27 112 926 000, shambalaprivategamereserve.co.za



▲ Phinda Private Game Reserve, andBeyond Phinda Homestead

SOUTH AFRICA

Available only for exclusive use, this farmhouse-style lodge is in andBeyond Phinda's Private Game Reserve on South Africa's northeastern coastal zone. The reserve has its own airstrip for easy access, and the four-bedroom abode is warm and inviting. Think classic Safari-chic interiors and quirky details such as the pineapple motifs that pay homage to the land's former life.

There is a fully equipped gym, library, full kitchen, swimming pool, pond and plenty of cozy communal spots to gather around and share tales of adventures in the bush — the sunken outdoor lounge with firepit is particularly lovely. Of course, you come here for the Big Five, and the beauty of the Homestead is that you can choose exactly when you want to head out on a game drive with your own dedicated ranger. *Samantha Coles*

Best feature Sunken lounge and firepit, on-demand game drives
From \$7,000 per person, per night. Contact William de Jager, manager, enquiries@andbeyond.com, +27 118 094 300, andbeyond.com



▲ Singita Sabi Sand, Singita Castleton

SABI SAND, SOUTH AFRICA

A private game reserve right next door to Kruger National Park, Sabi Sand has been owned by the Bailes family since 1926. Singita Castleton is the former home of Singita founder Luke Baile's grandfather, so it naturally has a comforting, intimate feel. The interiors are classic African farmhouse with natural materials and bush-inspired artwork. It is only available for exclusive use and has six cottages, each with a double bedroom and en suite. There is an abundance of communal space too — a country-style kitchen, wine cellar brimming with the best South African vintages, impressive wellness facilities including a tennis court, living and dining areas, a large swimming pool and a covered veranda. *Samantha Coles*

Best feature Outdoor boma for fireside dinners under the stars
From \$11,600 per night. Contact Graham Kennedy, operations director, enquiries@singita.com, +27 216 833 424, singita.com



▲ Four Seasons Resort Bora Bora, Two-Bedroom Premier Beachfront Villa Estate ▶

FRENCH POLYNESIA

There are some things in life that never get old, one of them being a picture-perfect beach: Bora Bora has brilliant white-sand beaches, turquoise lagoons, coral reefs and a volcanic topography. This Four Seasons is on a private *motu* (islet) and the Beachfront Villa Estate sits on a beautiful private beach. Its 3,228 sq ft can accommodate five guests, with interiors inspired by local architecture that encapsulate laid-back beach chic. The spacious living/dining area looks over an expansive deck with a swimming pool, whirlpool, enclosed garden, outdoor kitchen and alfresco dining space. Let the villa's resident chef prepare a dinner of the freshest Polynesian seafood. *Samantha Coles*
Best feature Private beach and views of Mount Otemanu
From \$9,460 per night. Contact Diego Stembert, general manager, diego.stembert@fourseasons.com, +68 940 603 163, fourseasons.com



▲ One&Only Reethi Rah, Grand Sunset Residence

NORTH MALE ATOLL, MALDIVES

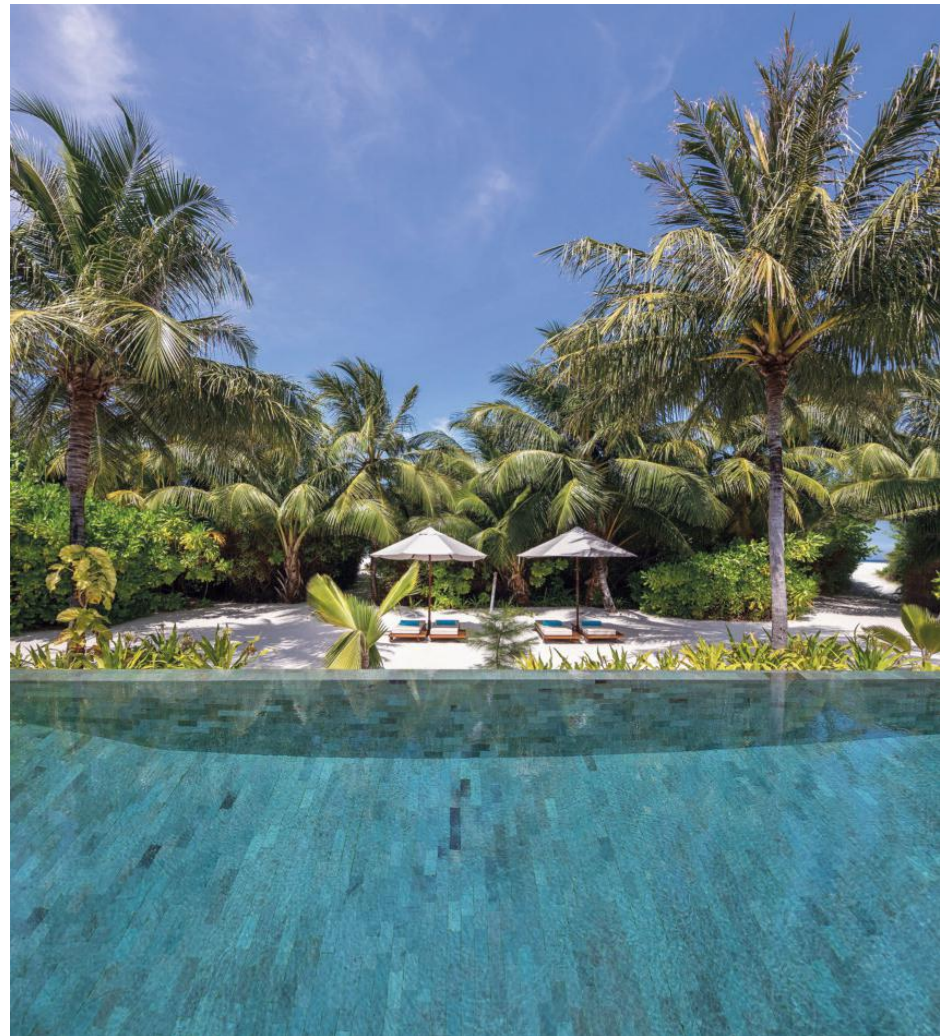
One of the largest private islands in the Maldives, One&Only Reethi Rah (or 'beautiful island') has almost four miles of breathtaking coastline. The Grand Sunset Residence is on the island's longest stretch of private beach, surrounded by dense gardens and swaying coconut trees. It is spread across two villas and can sleep 10 guests, so it's perfect for big groups or families. The tempting ocean is a few sandy steps away but if you can't quite make it, there are two swimming pools — one measuring a whopping 538 sq ft; the other 236 sq ft. As the surroundings are so captivating, you'll want to spend time outside, and the residence naturally accommodates: The outdoor living area has a stylish bar, sunken fire pit, shisha lounge and an outdoor cinema. *Samantha Coles*
Best feature Enormous private swimming pools and outdoor cinema
From \$27,370. Contact Sian Thomas, director of sales and marketing, reservations@oneandonlyreethirah.com, +960 664 8800, oneandonlyreethirah.com



▲ The St Regis Maldives Vommuli Resort, John Jacob Astor Estate

DHAALU ATOLL, MALDIVES

The largest overwater suite in the Maldives (and that is saying something for this archipelago and its luxe resorts), the John Jacob Astor Estate is technically part of the St Regis Maldives Vommuli, but has so much on offer it is like a resort in itself. Named for the brand's founder, John Jacob Astor IV, the estate covers over 16,500 sq ft spread over two stories with three large bedrooms, fully equipped gym, cinema, spa suites for each of the bedrooms, large kitchen, and dining room for 12 guests. Outside you'll find a vast deck with awe-inspiring views over the Indian Ocean, two plunge pools and whirlpool. *Samantha Coles*
Best feature Spa suites for each of the three bedrooms
From \$26,200 per night. Contact Vincent Pauchon, general manager, stregis.maldivesvommuli@stregis.com, +960 676 6333, stregismaldives.com



▲ Anantara Kihavah Maldives Villas, Three-Bedroom Beach Residence

BAA ATOLL, MALDIVES

Even though Anantara Kihavah is just a 35-minute seaplane ride over the brilliant blue Indian Ocean, it feels like you're on a deserted island (albeit an extremely luxe one). The Beach Residence is surrounded by thick foliage and has a private path leading directly to the perfect beach, steps away from the teeming-with-marine-life house reef. It has three bedrooms (each with en-suite outdoor bathrooms), dreamy living room, lounge and dining areas, kitchen with wine fridge, infinity pool and spacious deck, and an in-villa spa treatment room. While the residence has everything you could possibly need, do visit the underwater restaurant, Sea, and go stargazing (with the strongest telescope in the Maldives) at the Sky bar. *Samantha Coles*
Best feature Private beach access
From \$15,000 per night. Contact Paul Counihan, director of sales and marketing, pcounihan@anantara.com, +960 796 2718, anantara.com