

INSPIRATIONS

2019 - ISSUE 5

EXPLORE A WORLD
OF GASTRONOMY

SAVOUR
ENCHANTED
EVENINGS

STRIDE OUT ON WILD
ADVENTURES



BELMOND

WELCOME

Welcome to *Inspirations* - and the wonderful world of Belmond. Join us on great travel adventures across the globe, from dawn experiences at spectacular hotels to gastronomic journeys aboard our luxury trains.

Celebrate landmark anniversaries at heritage hotels in Sicily and Cape Town. Discover our new Caribbean hideaway, Belmond Cap Juluca, and London retreat, Belmond Cadogan Hotel.

Wherever you go we invite you to make the most of every moment. This is your time.

CONTENTS

PAGE 3
GREET THE DAY

Step out on our dawn experiences.

PAGE 8
ON TOP OF THE WORLD

Treat yourself to wellness adventures.

PAGE 13
HEALING WATERS

Paradise awaits in our spas and havens.

PAGE 18
SUITE LIFE

Looking for a private hideaway?

PAGE 22
IT'S PARTY TIME!

Celebrate in Sicily, Venice and more.

PAGE 36
ONE LEGEND TO ANOTHER

An iconic retreat is revived in London.

PAGE 40
THE ART OF GASTRONOMY

Explore our wonderful gourmet world.

PAGE 52
TIMELESS AFRICA

Tap into your inner explorer.

PAGE 58
ADVENTURES IN ASIA

Customise an enticing Grand Tour.

PAGE 64
FURTHER ESCAPES

Take to the road, sail into the wild.

PAGE 72
FLAVOURS OF PERU

Find out what the buzz is about.

PAGE 76
SPARKLING SOCIETY

Meet the personalities behind the bar.

PAGE 80
GRAPE EXPECTATIONS

Discover exclusive vineyards and vintages.

PAGE 86
#AMALFIGRAM

Create an enviable Insta-feed.

Discover more: belmond.com/ideas

GREET *the* DAY

EMBRACE THE MAGIC OF DAWN WITH BELMOND'S GROWING COLLECTION OF SPECIALLY CURATED EXPERIENCES.



Everything that makes our destinations enthralling is heightened at sunrise. In the enchanting stillness, the sun's first rays gently warm the landscape - a tranquil Mallorcan cove, a majestic African mountain. It's a time of day we rarely get to savour in our frenetic lives. Which is why Belmond offers you the chance to linger and appreciate it.

We invite you to make the most of the morning with experiences such as Sunrise above the Clouds at Belmond Reid's Palace, where you head to the top of Madeira's Pico do Arieiro mountain by jeep to catch the daybreak (left).

Now we're set to launch additional dawn activities. Join an eco-guide to follow the paths trodden by Leonardo da Vinci on the lush slopes behind Belmond Villa San Michele. Or enjoy a beach workout with a personal trainer at Belmond Cap Juluca, our new Caribbean hideaway.

FIRST LIGHT WALKS

We're also adding to our series of First Light walks in partnership with Leica Sport Optics.

For these activities, you're accompanied by a pair of powerful binoculars and either a Leica expert, local nature guide or a map for self-guidance as you stride off on routes from Belmond La Residencia, in Mallorca, Belmond Hotel das Cataratas, at Iguassu Falls (below) and Belmond Mount Nelson Hotel in Cape Town.

This year, continue the journey. Wind among the jungle temples of Angkor Wat from Belmond La

Résidence d'Angkor, tread quietly through the Botswana bush on an early-morning safari from Belmond Safaris, and spot treasures of the Irish countryside, a wildlife expert by your side, through the window of Belmond Grand Hibernian train.

Now read on to discover even more experiences that make the most of each new day.

Join us at daybreak.
 Visit www.belmond.com/first-light



“Spot a wealth of wildlife on a sunrise safari in our leafy Tuscan estate.”

TUSCAN SAFARI

- TUSCANY, ITALY -

Early mornings are a hive of activity at Belmond Castello di Casole. Within our rolling hills, boars snuffle, hares leap and deer prance. The rich forest gives them ample places to hide, but our Head Gamekeeper knows where to find them. Join him on an early morning jeep tour and observe them as they go about their business.

LOVE OF THE WILD

Paolo, Head Gamekeeper at Belmond Castello di Casole for 16 years (above), is in charge of our verdant estate. He says: “The sweetest Tuscan landscapes you can imagine come to life at Belmond Castello di Casole”.

“Each day is different: unpredictability plays a huge part in nature’s charm,” continues the wildlife lover. He ensures certain fields are kept full of soft wheat for the animals to feed on, allows the grass to grow high in spring and summer so the pheasants have insects to eat and the little roe deer can hide from predators such as foxes.

Set off with him at sunrise in the hotel’s Evoque Range Rover. At this time of day, you’ve got a good chance of spotting animals eating before returning to the trees for cover. On an hour-long tour, he’ll point out wild boar, hare, deer, pheasant, even porcupine as they forage. Paolo knows all the creatures’ habits, for example that wild boar sleep all day and eat all night. He advises you to “keep calm and avoid sudden moves. Also, don’t wear anything too bright or strongly perfumed. Confidence and discretion are key.”

At the end of the safari, a picnic breakfast awaits. Or you can explore further on a walk around the grounds, such as the 2km path encircling our property. If you don’t want the experience to end, you can do it all again at sunset.

Explore with us at
belmond.com/tuscanadventures

SILENT SERENISSIMA

- VENICE, ITALY -

Venice is captivating at any time of day. But to really appreciate its magic, you need to see it without the crowds. Belmond Hotel Cipriani's enthralling breakfast experience at Scala Contarini del Bovolo allows you to do just that.

It's rare to have Venice all to yourself. Early morning is enchanting; the light soft, the air still, suffused with a beautiful calmness before the city wakes up to a new day. Experience this special ambience on a hypnotic boat ride to St Mark's Square.

From the moment you step off our boat and stroll through the square, you witness Venice in a deserted, hushed state. On reaching Palazzo Contarini del Bovolo (right), you'll be warmly welcomed and invited to climb the striking staircase. Note its harmonious blend of Renaissance, Gothic and Venetian-Byzantine architecture. At the top, in the stunning belvedere, enjoy your first coffee

of the morning as you look out over the rooftops, watching the city awaken before you. A delicious breakfast follows.

At 26 metres (and 113 steps) high, the Scala is the tallest spiral staircase in Venice, characterised by its alternating red cotto bricks and white Istrian stone. Its name, *bovolo*, derives from the Venetian word for snail. It was commissioned in the 15th century by the noble Contarini family, one of the city's founding families. Keen-eyed movie buffs may recognise the structure from Orson Welles' 1951 *Othello*, when it served as Brabantio's house.

Your hosts will be delighted to tell you more about this hidden architectural gem as you gaze out over Venice, watching it come to life before your eyes.

[Discover more at belmond.com/venetiantreasures](https://www.belmond.com/venetiantreasures)



On top of the **WORLD**

TAKE TIME OUT OF YOUR HECTIC LIFESTYLE TO ENRICH BODY AND MIND. STRIDE OUT IN AWE-INSPIRING SCENERY AND DISCOVER OUR EXCLUSIVE WELLNESS ACTIVITIES IN EUROPE AND BEYOND.

PATH OF THE GODS

- AMALFI COAST, ITALY -

They say, on the Path of the Gods you can touch paradise with your feet firmly on the ground. At Belmond Hotel Caruso, on the Amalfi Coast, join us to experience this hallowed trail in all its breathtaking beauty.

Let us lead you on a spectacular hike, 500 metres above sea level, from Agerola to Nocelle. Lasting around 3 hours, the 7.8km walk winds along sheer cliffs affording spectacular views (left). Around every corner a new jaw-dropping vista emerges: shimmering blue water, mountains overlapping into the distance or pastel-coloured houses tumbling down to the sea.

Picnic on creamy local goat's cheese, juicy Sorrento tomatoes and freshly baked bread; connect with the landscape in a restorative yoga session or even tackle some rock climbing.

The Path of the Gods used to be the only means of communication between the coastal villages. Legend claims the gods used it to meet with the bewitching Sirens in the sea.

HIGH POINTS

You'll pass vertiginous vineyards, lemon groves and vegetable gardens, and wonder at the tenacity of the people who cultivate them. Look out for the Grotta del Biscotto, the tiny "biscuit cave" so named as its shape resembles the bread of Agerola. Espy Li Galli, a cluster of rocky islands facing Capri. Rudolph Nureyev once lived here in a hideaway created by Le Corbusier.

At the path's end, you can choose to visit Positano by descending 1,680 steps. Summon your god-like strength to make the journey and reward yourself with a gelato in one of the village's charming cafés.

Step out with us at [belmond.com/amalfiadventures](https://www.belmond.com/amalfiadventures)



WILD PENINSULA

- MADEIRA, PORTUGAL -

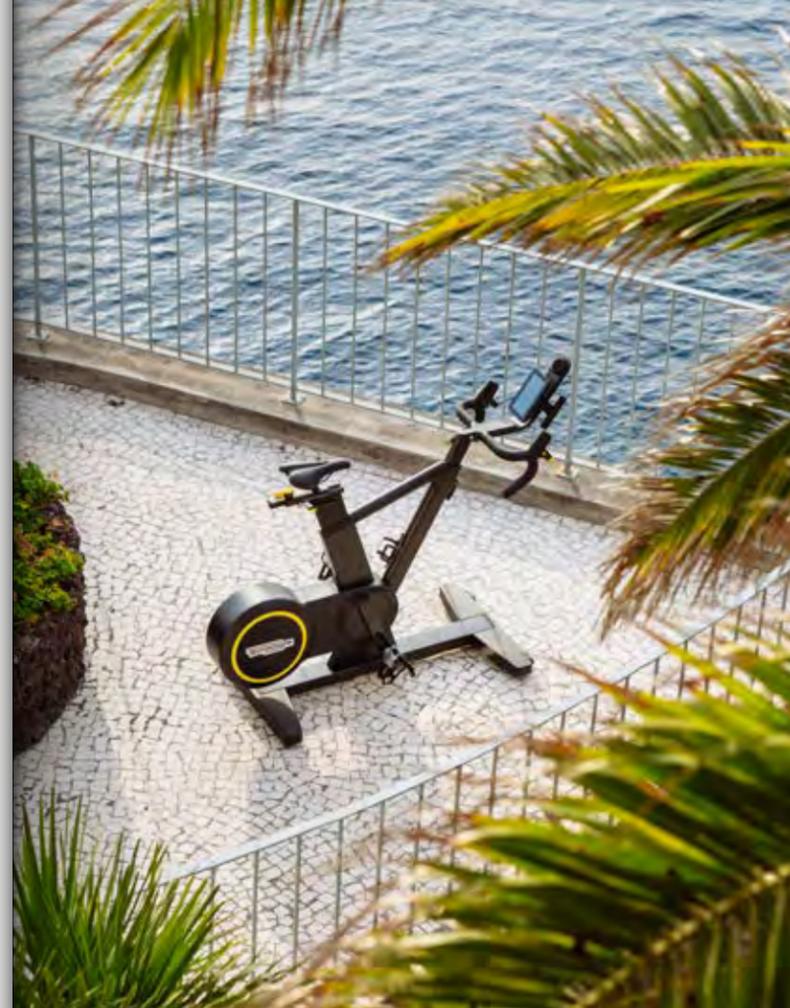
Fill your lungs with fresh sea air as you stride out along Madeira's breezy São Lourenço Peninsula (above and top right). Blending the drama of barren, rocky land and the exhilaration of the wild Atlantic Ocean, a trek from Belmond Reid's Palace is a wonderful way to connect with nature.

The adventure begins after we drive you to pretty Caniçal at the southeastern end of Madeira island. Step out on the undulating trail towards the peninsula's tip, 5km away. The rugged basalt landscape is devoid of vegetation, a stark contrast to the island's Laurisilva forest and lush levadas. Stop at an early viewpoint to take in the entire strip of land as far as the peak of the Pico do Furado. Note how the west flank of the peninsula is battered by huge waves while the other side is lapped by calmer waters.

Though the peninsula doesn't have showy plants, it boasts an incredible 130 species of flora. The rich fauna is another highlight - you may spot birds including Berthelot's Pipit, the European goldfinch and Atlantic canary, or the unique Madeiran wall lizard that loves to dart among the rocky crevices. .

At the path's end, head down to the beach and take a dip in the clear water. After the walk, we'll drive you the short distance to Ponta do Rosto Viewpoint, where on a clear day you can see as far as Porto Santo Island. We'll serve you an energy-replenishing spread of detox juices, granola bars, healthy wraps, goji berries and fruits as you soak up the invigorating vistas.

Read more about the island's wonderful walks at belmond.com/madeirahikes



BORN TO MOVE

We're so keen on wellness at Belmond Reid's Palace, we even have a festival devoted to it. At our fabulous Wellness Weekend, we invite you to enjoy alfresco, cutting-edge beauty treatments in our subtropical grounds, join aromatherapy workshops, participate in morning power yoga in the gardens or test your stand-up paddleboard skills on the water.

We're equally proud to offer a new wellness concept in partnership with Technogym. Browse our Wellness à la Carte menu to choose equipment to use in the comfort of your room, from Skillbike (below left), Technogym's revolutionary stationary bike designed for cyclists, with real gear shift, to a complete set of Wellness Tools, including Technogym's Wellness Balls and weights.

"While fitness is about looking good, wellness is about feeling good," says Technogym's visionary founder and CEO, Nerio Alessandri.

At the age of 22, the Italian entrepreneur combined his passions for design, technology and sports by building a hack-squat machine in his parents' garage. Soon his hobby transformed into a fulltime business and global brand. "Man was born to move," he says. "Technogym's mission for the past 30 years has been to get people moving again through technology-driven equipment, digital innovation and promoting a wellness lifestyle around the world."

As well as toning up in your room, you can visit our smartly remodelled fitness centre to discover Technogym's state-of-the-art EXCITE range. Request a personal trainer to devise a bespoke workout that you can continue practicing at home.

Enjoy a dedicated accommodation package during our Wellness Weekend from August 30-September 1, 2019. Find out more at belmond.com/madeirawellness

BLISS AMONG THE BLOOMS

- PORTOFINO, ITALY -

Looking to steal away for an intimate wedding? We have just the place.

Join us at Belmond Hotel Splendido, on the Italian Riviera, for a modern-day elopement that's romantic, stylish and fun. Choose one of our tailored packages, suitable for just the two of you or a small group, and relax as every little detail is taken care of. We'll arrange a celebrant for symbolic ceremonies and vow renewals, photography, music and more. End your wonderful day with a romantic dinner overlooking the Bay of Portofino (right), served by a personal butler.

It isn't only wedded bliss we offer in our gardens. Choose our Apericure experience to enjoy a private, alfresco beauty treatment. As our therapist tends your nails, select from our menu of bespoke cocktails designed to match your polish. Sip a divine Red Sunset or Candy Pink as you soak up the views. Ideal for bridal showers or some magical me-time.

Escape with us at belmond.com/hotelsplendido



Healing Waters

PLUNGE INTO OUR NORTH AMERICAN SPAS TO DISCOVER BLISSFUL THERAPIES IN EXTRAORDINARY LOCATIONS.

CALIFORNIA DREAMING

Gain a glow to rival a Californian sunrise at The Spa at Belmond El Encanto. In the Santa Barbara hills, with sweeping views of the American Riviera (above), be pampered with fresh botanicals and tropical ingredients. Our signature scrub, blending Himalayan salt and aromatic essential oils, is at once stimulating and relaxing. Unwind in our serene outdoor spaces or practice yoga by the lily pond.





GO WITH THE FLOW

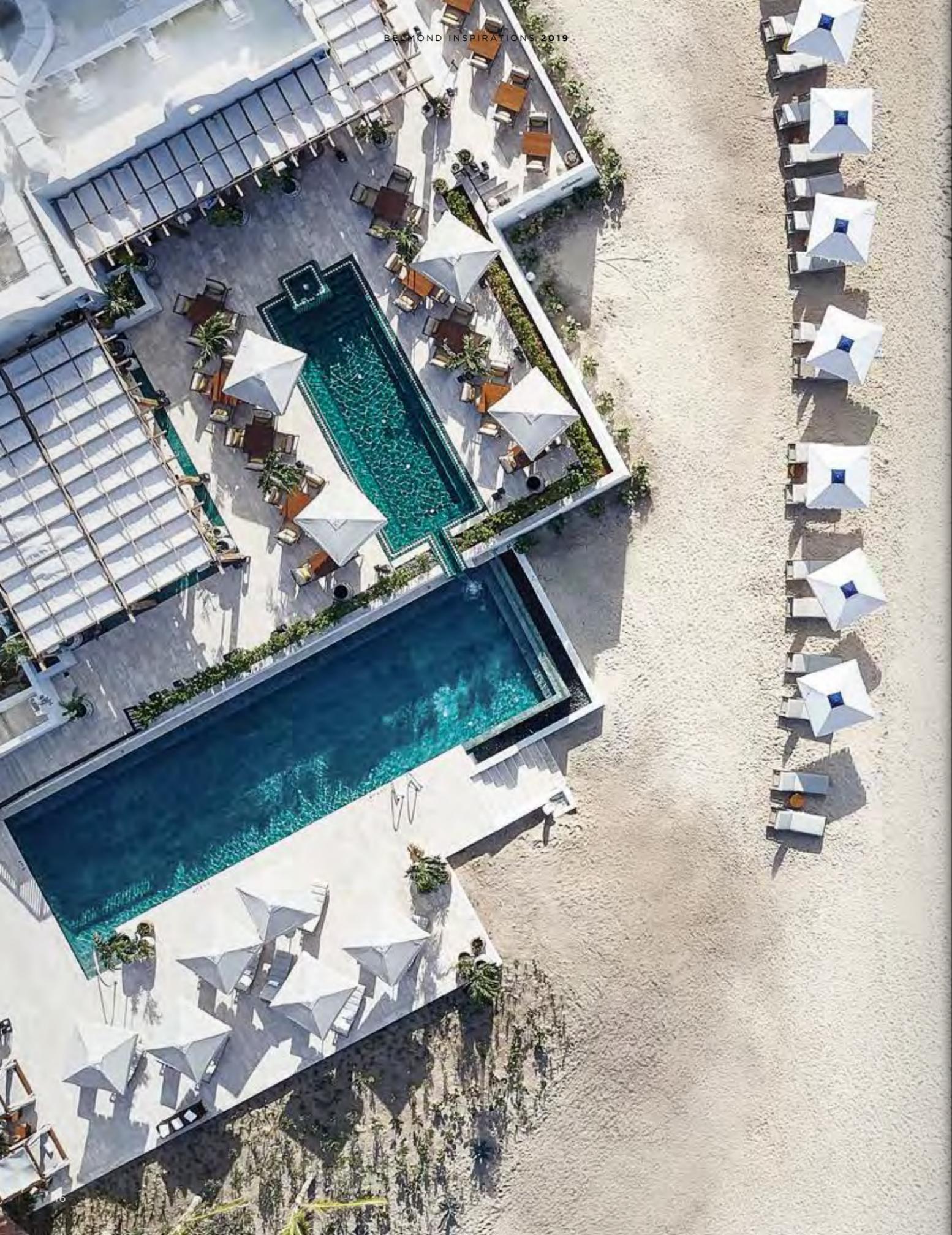
Discover the secrets of Mexican wellbeing at Kinan Spa (below), which was built with spiritual guidance from a family of Mayan masons. This sanctuary at Belmond Maroma Resort & Spa offers therapies that harness the power of local ingredients, such as chocolate, honey and herbs. Or why not try a temazcal on the sands for a truly authentic Mayan cleansing ritual? Sea breezes and tropical scents also await at our sparkling new Caribbean spas (see overleaf), but you can just as easily find serenity in the hub of the city. For example, in the airy, colonial-style treatment rooms at Belmond Casa de Sierra Nevada in the Mexican heartlands, or in downtown Charleston, where you can swim in the beautiful domed rooftop pool at Belmond Charleston Place (right) or seize the chance to enjoy a 100% natural facial by eco skincare guru, Tata Harper.



BE SOOTHED ON THE MOVE

If one view isn't quite enough, how about absorbing ever-changing panoramas from the spa carriages aboard two of our trains? Enjoy top-to-toe rejuvenation as you course through the Scottish Highlands aboard Belmond Royal Scotsman. Due to popular demand, we've changed the windows from frosted to plain glass so you can soak up the mountain vistas more fully. Or set your sights even higher and gaze at the towering Peruvian Andes from Picaflor Spa Car. After a day of outdoor pursuits aboard Belmond Andean Explorer (left), be re-energised with Inca-inspired therapies featuring coca leaves, obsidian stones and even gold.

Unwind with Belmond at belmond.com/northamerica and belmond.com/trains



Caribbean *Dream*

Close your eyes and visualise a hammock beneath a waving palm, a view of white sand and crystal-clear waters. Welcome to our dazzling island retreats.

Timeless sophistication meets island escapism at Belmond Cap Juluca, Anguilla's new style icon. Set on captivating Maundays Bay, the legendary resort has reopened, totally reimagined (left). Discover a new infinity-edge pool, rustic beach bar and irresistible restaurants. Play beach volleyball or snorkel over the rainbow-hued coral. As night falls, savour rum cocktails and calypso on the talcum-soft sands.

A short sea hop away is the cosmopolitan paradise of St Martin, where Belmond La Samanna has also reopened after a full-scale remodelling. Perched on sought-after Baie Longue, the resort still channels the glamour of the days when Jackie Onassis, David Bowie and Henry Kissinger strolled its pristine, powder-white sands. Sip champagne at sunset aboard our 32ft catamaran, or head into town to enjoy the buzzy scene.

Plan your escape at
belmond.com/capjuluca and belmond.com/lasamanna

Life Suite



FROM SICILIAN-SCENTED AND BLOOM-INSPIRED TO A CELEBRITY HIDEAWAY, THE SUMPTUOUS NEW SUITES AT OUR SOUTHERN EUROPEAN HOTELS WILL FUEL YOUR IMAGINATION LIKE NEVER BEFORE.

VILLA LIVING IN RAVELLO

When a global superstar chooses a venue for a romantic break, you know it's going to be magical and discreet. So Belmond Villa Margherita (above), our new guesthouse overlooking the Amalfi Coast, was an inspired choice for a young pop star's intimate escape with his partner last summer. Composed of two suites, available individually or as one exclusive residence, the villa's allure is clear. Lush secluded gardens overlook the stunning coast. The generous

interiors exude Mediterranean charm. A private butler and dedicated chef are on hand to serve drinks, take care of every little detail and cook up divine feasts. Just up the road are the fine dining restaurants and breathtaking infinity pool of our Ravello hotel. The ultimate hideaway for romantic breaks, the villa can house up to eight people so it's also ideal for gatherings of friends or family. We can even arrange an exclusive dinner in the gardens for a celebration with true Italian *brio*.

PLANT PERFECTION IN PORTOFINO

For years, wisteria has tumbled down the façade of Belmond Hotel Splendido. It may even have played a fragrant role on the terrace where Richard Burton proposed to Elizabeth Taylor or where Madonna celebrated a milestone birthday. So it's fitting that we've named our new Presidential Suite Wisteria, alongside Bougainvillea (also a Presidential Suite) and Ginepro (an Executive Junior Suite), two further spaces inspired by plants that flourish in our gardens. All three radiate classic Italian elegance, summoning the glory days of the dolce vita with a chic, understated style that defines the entire hotel. Details such as hand-painted

frescos, antique chandeliers, velvet sofas and inlaid floors are inspired by the grand 19th-century villas that line the Ligurian coast. Bathrooms in black and white marble notch up the decadence quota; guests in Wisteria even enjoy private access to the swimming pool. The suites combine a privileged position with beautiful views over the Gulf (below). For absolute indulgence, all three can be connected to create an expansive three-bedroom apartment. Their terraces joined together form a stunning, 60-metre-long space – the longest and most dazzling in Portofino.



SCENT-SATIONAL STYLE IN SICILY

Appealing to all the senses are three new sanctuaries at Belmond Villa Sant'Andrea. The brainchild of Milan-based interior designer Eric Egan, the Scented Suites - named Zagara (orange blossom), Neroli (bitter orange flower oil) and Gelsomino (jasmine) - recall the fragrances that fill the hotel's gardens. An exclusive Ortigia line has been dedicated to each: step into Neroli and a spicy, honeyed scent will ignite your senses. Run a bath in Gelsomino's magnificent copper bathtub and sprinkle in sweet-smelling jasmine salts. The décor melds natural elements, such as wood, stone and flowers, with vibrant Sicilian touches, including tiles and ceramics. Creating a splash in Zagara, the Presidential Suite, and in Gelsomino are two original works by Italian post-war artist Mimmo Rotella. His posters, created from torn advertising, are here inspired by famous movies, a nod to Taormina's celebrated film festival.

ISLAND DESIGN IN DEIÀ



Suite 67 at Belmond La Residencia, in Mallorca, also boasts celebrity credentials - this time from the designer himself. Matthew Williamson, British fashion-turned-interiors designer, recently set up home in Deià and his trademark jewel-like colours and flamboyant, nature-inspired prints made him a great choice to create something a little different for the hotel. Matthew conjured up a unique atmosphere for each space - from the outdoor snug, pool and garden, which has a glamorous, 1950s California vibe, to the luxurious living area. His own wallpaper sets a floral theme, together with botanical printed chairs and John Derian artworks. Locally sourced pieces include painted wardrobes, an ostrich feather lamp, golden velvet couch and electric-blue lacquered bed. "Deià is one of the places where I feel most creative and this has been a real passion project," commented the designer. Suite 67 joins six serene new suites and junior suites, most with plunge pools, added in the hotel's Tramuntana building in 2017.



Discover more at belmond.com/sweetsuites

ALL DEIÀ IMAGES © TOM MANNION

It's PARTY TIME!

THERE'S ALWAYS SOMETHING TO CELEBRATE AT OUR HOTELS AROUND THE WORLD, STARTING WITH A SPECIAL BIRTHDAY IN SICILY.



RAISE A TOAST TO 100 YEARS OF BELMOND VILLA SANT'ANDREA.



A CENTURY IN SICILY

- TAORMINA MARE, ITALY -

One hundred years ago, an Englishman and his family built their dream villa on the Bay of Mazzarò. Belmond Villa Sant'Andrea has been an irresistible beach-side retreat ever since.

Our story began when Cornishman Robert Trehella came to Sicily in the late 1800s to help build the Circumetnea railway. He and his wife fell in love with Taormina's breathtaking bay and began building a lavish summer residence which their son, Alfred Percy, completed in 1919. The villa, transformed into a hotel, later passed to Alfred Percy's grandson, Richard Manley. From the 1960s onwards the beautiful beach-side hideaway, with its shaded terrace and decadent piano bar, attracted the cream of Sicilian society as well as famous faces from further afield.

Richard Manley recalls the time the film director Francis Ford Coppola contacted him in 1971. "He

wanted to stay in Sicily to film some scenes for *The Godfather*. For about six weeks we hosted several members of the cast, including Al Pacino, who was unknown at the time. Over the course of several dinners, I advised on locations near Taormina where they might film."

So enamoured was Coppola that he returned to create the sequel (with Robert De Niro) and trequel. A waiter at Belmond Villa Sant'Andrea remembers that Al Pacino loved to invite other members of the crew to dine with him. "One night he asked us to construct a kitchen next to his room so he could cook spaghetti al pomodoro for all the other actors!"

Building on our vibrant history, we invite you to join us for our centenary celebrations, which include a fascinating boat trip with a surprising ending.

SET SAIL ON OUR CELEBRATION CRUISE

Leaving from our private beach, you'll head towards pristine Isola Bella and golden Giardini Naxos. Spot the art nouveau railway station that played a role in one of the *Godfather* films.

Continue sailing in the azure sea until you come to the picturesque fishing village of Acitrezza. Visit a charming boatyard where the Rodolico family, the last master boatbuilders in the area, have been crafting wooden fishing vessels since 1908.

As lunchtime approaches, you'll reach Catania. Alight from the boat and explore the lively fish market on your way to the Piazza Duomo. Stroll through the historical centre, noting the baroque aristocratic houses around you. A door opens, and you're invited in for a private lunch. Join Rosalba Cutore and her family in their sumptuous palace, located right next to the former home of the Trehella family. The two families used to be friends and over a delicious lunch you'll glean fascinating stories about enchanting summers in Taormina Mare.

Look out also for our Beach Bar's menu of scented waters, including Eau de Gwendoline, a refreshing tribute to Alfred Percy Trehella's daughter, and our Velvet Carriage cocktail, in which every ingredient relates to our storied past.

Discover more at belmond.com/villasantandrea



LEFT TO RIGHT:
BELMOND VILLA SANT'ANDREA ON THE BAY;
PALATIAL LUNCH IN CATANIA; SAIL TO THE
FISHING VILLAGE OF ACITREZZA.



IT'S PARTY TIME!

SHOOTING STARS

- VENICE, ITALY -

Greg Williams may have photographed some of the biggest names in the world, but he says there's rarely a fixed plan. "I just turn up and start bumping into people." The 46-year-old Englishman has a knack for capturing intimate portraits of A-listers. "I have managed to gain their trust over the past 20 years, so I'm in quite a unique situation."

A regular at the major film festivals, he particularly enjoys Venice as everyone travels by boat - "it's so photogenic". He captured a relaxed Cate Blanchett, whom he's known since the set of 1997 film *Elizabeth*, as they

travelled together to Belmond Hotel Cipriani. "Increasingly I'm more of a participant in my photos rather than just an observer - you can sense my presence in the picture with the subject either laughing with me or at me."

"Actors aren't models, they're performers," he continues. "I never try to get them to pose. It's a collaboration."

Greg is a long-time fan of Belmond Hotel Cipriani. "It's a big part of the glamour of the film festival, steeped in movie history. Also, as I swim every morning I'm particularly fond of the pool, which is where I shot Matt Smith, messing about with a water pistol."

MOVIE MAGIC

- VENICE, ITALY -

Belmond Hotel Cipriani is thrilled to be connected with a prestigious award as part of the Venice Film Festival.

One of the most glamorous occasions in the city's calendar, the Venice Film Festival sees big-screen stars converge on the canals and palazzi for a celluloid celebration like no other. Belmond Hotel Cipriani has long been the hideaway of choice for many visiting stars, from George Clooney to Lady Gaga (above), who come to enjoy screenings and events at the modernist Palazzo del Cinema on the Lido.



Last year we cemented our connection by hosting a dazzling evening for the Franca Sozzani Award, which was set up by Francesco Carrozzini and *Condé Nast Italia* in memory of Francesco's mother, Franca. The trailblazing editor-in-chief of Italian *Vogue* had always been a fan of our Venetian sanctuary, so it was a fitting venue for the star-studded party - and will be again in 2019, when it will inaugurate the film festival. Last year's award went to actress and producer Salma Hayek, shown left with Francesco, whose own stellar career, combined with tireless charitable work, complements Franca's own qualities.

A SON'S HOMAGE

Francesco Carrozzini, the Italian-born director and photographer, talked to us about this unique tribute to his mother.

On Belmond Hotel Cipriani

"My mother always said to me, 'This is simply the most chic hotel in the world'. For me today, it means heritage, two generations of family coming to the same place every year and calling it home."

"If Belmond Hotel Cipriani was a movie icon, it would be a mix of Brando, McQueen, Loren, Newman, Bardot and many others!"

On the Franca Sozzani Award

"I wanted to establish it because my mother's legacy is important to me. Also, this is the most glamorous of all festivals and she loved glamour!"

"The award recognises someone who not only excels in their job or craft, but who takes social commitment seriously and is really trying to do something to improve the world."

On Venice

"It's a dream, a place suspended in time that will always remind me of how proud I am to be Italian."



"I love shooting talent, not just actors but sportsmen, scientists, artists - people with something remarkable about them."

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: CATE BLANCHETT, MATT SMITH, DAKOTA JOHNSON AND CHRISTOPH WALTZ CAPTURED BY GREG AT BELMOND HOTEL CIPRIANI.

© GREG WILLIAMS



DRESS TO IMPRESS

- ITALY -

Shop for your party clothes in our hotel boutiques, where our exclusive collections include party-time PJs and elegant evening attire.

For many style-savvy guests at the Venice Film Festival the label of choice was For Restless Sleepers. The Italian brand's chic silk pyjamas are favoured by fashion-forward luminaries from Queen Rania of Jordan to Natalia Vodianova.

Belmond Hotel Cipriani was delighted to have a pyjama collection designed exclusively by the label's founder, Francesca Ruffini, in honour of its 60th anniversary last year (above). Paying homage to the mysterious Mocenigo Rose, the limited-edition range is available in the hotel's Boutique.

BESPOKE LUXURY

Meanwhile, we've found you the ideal companion if you're attending the 2019 Art Biennale. We've teamed up with artisanal leather brand Dellaluna Venezia to create



a one-off design for Belmond Hotel Cipriani (below). The luxury maison has designed a limited-edition version of its iconic Leoni Tote bag in a Bellini peach hue, a nod to our own legendary history. The exquisitely crafted bag will be available in our Boutique from May.

WEAR IT WITH FLAIR

As well as party outfits, you'll find beautiful bespoke separates, inspired by the surroundings, in our hotel boutiques across southern Europe. Return to the classics at Belmond Hotel Caruso, for example, whose ancient frescos inform the sophisticated fashions; choose silky, flowing garments adorned with romantic wisteria at Belmond Hotel Splendido, or opt for a verdant Tuscan look at Belmond Castello di Casole.

For more information,
email boutique.ita@belmond.com

UP ON THE ROOF

- VENICE, ITALY -

Plan your own glamorous party in an elevated venue with a view.

Many aspects of Venice, like gondolas, are unique in the world. *Altana* – wooden, rooftop structures – first appeared in the 13th century. The city's inhabitants would go up to these private spaces to hang out laundry, nurture pot plants or even lighten their hair in the sun.

Now we are opening Belmond Hotel Cipriani's own *altana* (below) for exclusive rooftop parties. Soak up sensational, 360-degree panoramas embracing Il Redentore, the hub of San Marco and the bell tower of San Giorgio Maggiore. As a light breeze blows and jazz gently plays, absorb the beguiling atmosphere and witness a showstopping sunset. Indulge your imagination with a customised picnic or cocktails, a romantic dinner or afternoon tea. In fact, any intimate gathering for between two and 10 people can be celebrated in style. What could be more uniquely Venetian?

Join the party at belmond.com/hotelcipriani



Celebrate in
BRAZIL!

SEQUINS AND SAMBA, GLAMOUR AND GLITZ...
THERE'S ONLY ONE PLACE TO BE WHEN THE
RIO CARNIVAL HITS TOWN. SASHAY DOWN
THE RED CARPET AND JOIN THE PARTY
AT BELMOND COPACABANA PALACE.



BRIGHT LIGHTS, BIG MOON

Samba fills the streets from dusk till dawn; the air is electric in Brazil's party town. The beautiful people of Rio have been busy planning their outfits for months: we don't mean the spangly bikinis of the Sambadrome, we're talking about the year's most glamorous event, the Belmond Copacabana Palace carnival ball.

This year, on March 2, we're paying homage to our stylish friends across the Atlantic with an Italian extravaganza. Expect sumptuous designer gowns from Italy's greatest couturiers, flamboyant interior design evoking the magic of Italia and displays that tell the stories of iconic brands, from sportscars and scooters to luxury shoes. Naturally, the delicious buffet will recall the dolce vita too.

A-listers, from Rio's elite to Hollywood stars, are always in attendance. But everyone is a star on this special night, walking up the red carpet in their finery, applauded by onlookers. Live bands enchant guests seated at tables in our Golden and Noble Rooms. The front of the hotel, with its sweeping veranda overlooking the ocean, is the place to mingle and be seen. Before the night's end the queen of the ball will be crowned and the dancing goes on till daybreak.

Return to Rio for the New Year. Copacabana Beach is the site of Brazil's biggest Réveillon, when 2.5 million people watch the spectacular pyrotechnics show over the water. But you don't want to be among the throng. Instead, gather friends and family and watch from the comfort of one of our restaurants - our revamped poolside Pérgula or Ristorante Hotel Cipriani. Be sure to wear white, Brazil's dress code for New Year's Eve. As midnight approaches, head to the veranda for the countdown, hug your loved ones - and pop open one of the 1,000 bottles of champagne that keep the party sparkling through the night.

If a moonlit mountain is more your style, we're thrilled to offer exclusive new experiences atop Rio's cone-shaped Sugarloaf (far right). Set at the mouth of Guanabara Bay, the iconic mountain is easily reached on a 15-minute car ride from Belmond Copacabana Palace.

Our Full Moon experience takes place on four nights of the month. For total exclusivity, let us arrange a visit after the

last visitors have departed at 22:00. You'll ride the first cable car up Urca Hill to the Mirante, or viewpoint, to gaze over the illuminated city and the dramatic peaks of the Tijuca Massif. Continue in the second cable car to the summit of Sugarloaf Mountain, where you're rewarded with silvery panoramas of Copacabana Beach, the Santa Cruz Fortress and the glistening ocean. Let us pour you a glass of Brazilian sparkling wine to seal the magical moment.

Alternatively, enjoy sunset cocktails and a three-course gastronomic dinner, served on an elegant table on the Mirante. This private space gives you a mesmerising view of Corcovado Mountain, the statue of Christ the Redeemer stunningly backlit by the sunset.

Thirdly, opt to enjoy a sunrise breakfast on the mountain before the cable car opens. Soar up to the top with a group of friends and watch Rio awaken. Please note, experiences must be reserved in advance, can be tailored to your wishes and are subject to weather conditions.

Far from the bright lights of Rio, that same full moon gives rise to a mesmerising phenomenon over Brazil's Iguassu Falls. On a guided evening walk from Belmond Hotel das Cataratas, stroll out to witness the rare lunar rainbow, a brilliant silver arc emerging from a wall of thundering white water.

Celebrate New Year's Eve surrounded by the majesty of nature. Take your partner or family to party round our hotel's beautiful pool, enjoying live music, local delicacies and one of the world's most awe-inspiring wonders on your doorstep.

Or sample one of our new foodie events, such as our fabulous four-day gastronomic festival in September. Join us for dinners, culinary masterclasses and alfresco gatherings in the garden. Watch demonstrations by top mixologists, enjoy lunch prepared by a Michelin-starred chef, and mellow out to live music.

Join our celebrations at belmond.com/brazil

“Soar up to the top with a group of friends and watch Rio awaken.”

PARTY *like a* TSAR

“We were proud to stage the Gergiev White Nights’ Ball here, with guests including Presidents Vladimir Putin and Emmanuel Macron and the Prime Minister of Japan, Shinzō Abe.”

Partying in St Petersburg is unlike anywhere else, a chance to be transported to a world of tsar-like opulence. Since being the first place in Russia to host the inaugural Cartier jewellery exhibition, in 1907, Belmond Grand Hotel Europe has been the city's party venue of choice, our magnificent Krysha Ballroom the scene of many glittering soirées.

But we're also proud to enjoy a long-term relationship with the city's most majestic venues – palaces, theatres, museums, even a castle, and are often granted exclusive access to host parties there. To give you a taste of what's possible for your next celebration, our dedicated events team have selected their top 5 venues.

CATHERINE PALACE

A masterpiece of Russian Baroque, Catherine the Great's former residence in Tsarskoye Selo is renowned for its richly decorated interiors, including the world-famous Amber Room (left), which inspired our own sumptuous Amber Suite. We were proud to stage the Gergiev White Nights' Ball here, with guests including Presidents Vladimir Putin and Emmanuel Macron and the Prime Minister of Japan, Shinzō Abe. Four hundred guests enjoyed an exquisite dinner created by our Executive Chef, Ian Minnis, and his team.

Party scene: Gala celebrations and costume balls

What to wear: Dress like a member of the Romanov imperial dynasty

How to arrive: Ride up to the golden gates in a carriage

What's on the menu: Classic Russian appetisers and French champagne

Entertainment: Dance the waltz, quadrille and polonaise to a live orchestra

FABERGÉ MUSEUM

Home to the world's largest collection of Carl Fabergé pieces, including nine of his famous Imperial Easter Eggs, this dazzling museum is set within the Shuvalov Palace on the Fontanka River. Our team says: "We can decorate the venue in a jewellery theme, if wished. To really enter into the spirit, stay in our historic Fabergé Suite at the hotel."

Party scene: Sparkling soirées

What to wear: Diamonds and precious gems

How to arrive: By fabulous retro car or in a fleet of limousines

What's on the menu: Our signature Egg in Egg dish and spherical desserts

Entertainment: Exclusive tour of the Fabergé collection before or after dinner

RUSSIAN MUSEUM OF ETHNOGRAPHY

The largest museum of its kind, displaying everything from folk art to traditional habitats, is just a short walk from the hotel across Arts Square. Events are staged in the imposing Marble Hall lined with 28 monolithic columns. "When you truly party like a Russian, it's handy to have a five-minute walk back to your room!", laugh the team. We recently staged a gala dinner for 600 guests from fashion brand Guess here.

Party scene: Traditional Russian celebrations

What to wear: Ushanka hats, valenki felt boots, vibrant headscarves

What are we drinking: Vodka shots

On the menu: Pirozhki, borscht, pelmeni, vareniki

Entertainment: Drummers, choral groups, folk dancing, balalaika music and the iconic song "Kalinka-Malinka"

Décor: Ice bar and ice sculptures

YUSUPOV PALACE

Step back in time to where Rasputin met his untimely end in 1916. This aristocratic mansion, home to five generations of the Yusupov dynasty, boasts original State Rooms, art galleries and even a home theatre, which you can use to entertain your guests.

Party scene: Nights of drama

What to wear: Noble and theatrical attire

How to arrive: By boat – it's located right on the embankment

What's on the menu: Chic cocktails, fine wine and an elaborate feast

Entertainment: Invite your guests to an exclusive theatre performance, just as the Yusupovs would have done, or engage them in a dance class

POLOVTSEV MANSION

Behind a classic façade hides an architectural jewel blending Gothic and Baroque styles, precious woods and marble and décor to ignite the imagination. The mansion retains the feel of a magnificent family home so is ideal for immersive or costume parties.

Party scene: Doctor Zhivago-themed winter party

What to wear: Red and white

How to arrive: By troika

What are we drinking: Sbiten, the hot Russian punch

Entertainment: Romantic Russian songs

Décor: Frozen apples, candlelight, red and white elements reflecting the novel's revolutionary vibe

For a celebration with wow factor, let our expert Banqueting Team curate your next event.

Contact ghe.events@belmond.com or +7 812 329 66 66.

ONE LEGEND



TO ANOTHER

NOW, AT THE END OF AN ICONIC NORTHBOUND JOURNEY ABOARD THE VENICE SIMPLON-ORIENT-EXPRESS, YOU CAN STAY AT OUR STYLISH NEW LONDON RETREAT, BELMOND CADOGAN HOTEL.



LONDON CALLING

Parting can be such sweet sorrow – but not if you end your Venetian escape with a journey aboard the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express (above left). The northbound route, travelling from Venice to London, delivers a wonderfully different experience to that of the southbound journey. You'll gain fabulous views of the Dolomites, enjoy a lobster brunch and stop to stretch your legs in Innsbruck. And you'll enjoy the thrill of exchanging the balmy weather of La Serenissima for the dramatically cooler air of Austria's snowy Alpine landscapes. To really travel in style, stay in one of our Grand Suites (far right) – spread out in your own plush lounge with opulent marble bathroom and relish indulgent extras such as free-flowing champagne and private dining.

After crossing the Channel, you'll board Belmond British Pullman for the UK leg of the journey. Make sure to have a peek in Phoenix and Perseus, our two carriages recently returned from a major spruce-up in Clermont-Ferrand. Artist Philippe Allemand and his talented team have created beautiful, bespoke marquetry for the art deco carriages – for Phoenix, the design is inspired by the mythical bird's ascent from the ashes. Admire the polished wood offset by vibrant new upholstery.

On arrival in the capital, your Belmond adventure may now continue at our first and newly-opened London hotel, a stone's throw from London Victoria Station. Set on Sloane

Street, at the crossroads of Knightsbridge and Chelsea, Belmond Cadogan Hotel (above right) is steeped in evocative history. It was here that actress Lillie Langtry had secret assignations with the Prince of Wales and became close friends with fellow resident Oscar Wilde. The Bright Young People of the 1920s – bohemian artists and socialites – adopted the hotel as their meeting place; in the 1980s, *Vogue* models and photographers were drawn to its quintessential Britishness.

Today, vibrant past and present meet in our five sensitively restored Queen Anne buildings. Walk into gorgeous wood panelling, mosaic flooring and stained-glass windows to feel both a buzz of anticipation and the calming sensation of arriving home. Staff wearing uniforms inspired by the area's iconic trendsetters, such as Mary Quant, warmly greet you. Step out of a secret door to enjoy privileged access to Cadogan Place Gardens – sit beneath the 300-year-old mulberry tree or play tennis on possibly the most exclusive courts in town. Savour Modern British cuisine at our destination restaurant, Adam Handling, Chelsea, where a zero-waste ethos and Chef's Table showcase the team's epicurean talents. Admire our unique curated art collection, comprising around 400 original handpicked pieces from a wealth of UK-based artists. Then head outside to explore the unrivalled shopping, fashion and arts scenes on the doorstep.

AROUND THE WORLD WITH OUR TRAINS AND CRUISES

Belmond Cadogan Hotel is also the perfect base if you're planning a day trip from London Victoria Station on Belmond British Pullman.

Our series of Celebrity Chef Dinners on board continues with an enticing line-up including Michel Roux Jr, Raymond Blanc and Merlin Labron-Johnson. Look out for two indulgent afternoon teas with the British nation's favourite, Mary Berry. Or travel back to Shakespearean and medieval England with our riveting new excursions to Warwick Castle and Stratford-upon-Avon.

Hopping back over the Channel, we've been making changes to the Belmond Afloat in France fleet. Our gorgeous new barge, Lilas, has relocated to Burgundy to offer indulgent cruises through the region's lush landscapes and vineyards. Pivoine, meanwhile, is available to charter in effervescent Champagne. Can't choose? Opt for our fabulous new twin-centre cruise and combine three nights in Champagne with three in Burgundy.

Meanwhile, in Southeast Asia, the Eastern & Oriental Express will again be sporting a unique, art-wrapped carriage. International artist Jacky Tsai is decorating a car exterior in his signature style, which fuses traditional Chinese techniques with Pop Art references. His theme, in support of the charity Save Wild Tigers, is sure to make an arresting sight as the train courses through the tropical landscapes.

In aid of the same charity, the Eastern & Oriental Express recently co-sponsored a photographic exhibition, Eye on the Tiger, at London's Royal Albert Hall. A number of the images, captured by leading wildlife photographers, will form part of a dazzling VIP 'Tiger Express' journey in September 2019.

Start your adventure at belmond.com/journeys





THE ART
of
GASTRONOMY

OUR PASSION FOR CUISINE BEGINS WITH THE FINEST LOCAL INGREDIENTS, FROM ORGANIC PRODUCE IN OXFORDSHIRE TO SICILIAN FISH AND TUSCAN TRUFFLES.



FIELD-TO-FORK PIONEER RAYMOND BLANC OBE WITH SOME OF HIS ORGANIC PRODUCE AND EXQUISITE DISHES.

L'ART DE VIVRE

- OXFORDSHIRE, UK -



Vegetables have always been important to Raymond Blanc OBE. The two-Michelin-starred chef says, before he set eyes on the ancient manor house that was to become Belmond Le Manoir aux Quat'Saisons, his dream was "for a tiny place I could call my 'home sweet home', a small house with a large garden where I could grow my vegetables; a couple of guest bedrooms for my friends..."

"But life is not like that," he smiles. "We don't control our destiny. When I first saw this big, beautiful house, I completely fell in love with it and knew that it would suit my cuisine so well. Much work went into those early years, but I saw it as an opportunity. I wanted a place that exudes *l'art de vivre*."

The "much work" included generating gardens where over 250 organic varieties are grown, including micro-herbs, mushrooms and heritage fruits. The orchards alone produce 100 varieties of apples and pears. Raymond is renowned as a pioneer of the field-to-fork concept. "Within our 11 gardens and orchards is a whole world of art and sculpture," he says. "All are the making of a perfectly integrated eco-system; part of the living magic of Belmond Le Manoir. As a guest you can spend as much time in the gardens as at the table."

Remarkably, the hotel has held two Michelin stars for as long as it's been open: 35 years. It's clearly a lucky number, for 35 chefs who have trained here have gone on to achieve their own Michelin stars. "For a teacher, there is no greater joy than to see your students reach the peak of their chosen career," says Raymond. The star pupils include Gary Jones and Benoit Blin - "They lead my brigade and are both true craftsmen, leaders and teachers". Another is Mark Peregrine who, after working all over the world, returned to lead The Raymond Blanc Cookery School, a place where guests can master the garden-to-plate concept themselves and, new for 2019, take courses in vegan cuisine.

This year also marks Raymond's 70th birthday, at which point he will be commemorating half his lifetime - yes, 35 years - at the helm of his cherished retreat.

Join us for celebrations throughout 2019. Visit belmond.com/lemanoir





Reserve your place at Otto Geleng, the most coveted new table in Taormina.



TANTALISING DISHES AND STUNNING VIEWS AT OTTO GELENG.



SICILY ON A PLATE

- TAORMINA, ITALY -

A German artist unknowingly sparked the legend that would become Belmond Grand Hotel Timeo. Otto Geleng was so inspired by the beauty of Taormina that, in 1873, he urged his host to open the town's first hotel - the beautiful neoclassical villa that is now our hideaway. In his name, we've launched an exclusive, fine dining restaurant open during the summer months.

Be one of just 16 guests to join us for dinner each evening on the intimate terrace, framed by jewel-like bougainvillea. As you gaze out over the spectacular vistas of Naxos Bay and Mount Etna, you'll feel like a special guest at a grand Sicilian family home.

AWESOME EIGHT

We've played on the artist's first name, meaning "eight" in Italian, to create an exceptional experience. Just eight tables are laid with handcrafted cloths commissioned from the local needlecraft school, which recall the trousseaus well-to-do brides were traditionally given for their weddings. Charming white ceramic oil lamps have been fashioned by the masterly ludici brothers of Caltagirone. Bespoke Christofle cutlery is embellished with a Sicilian baroque design, complementing the Villeroy & Boch china.

STORY OF SICILY

Roberto Toro, our acclaimed Executive Chef, has used eight prized ingredients in his signature dish, Otto di Mare. To conjure up the richness of the seas around Sicily, he chose different varieties of seafood, including succulent Mazara red prawns and local mullet. Each is cooked with a different technique (sautéed, steamed, grilled) and brought together in a fragrant soup. Roberto's passion for his homeland's ingredients shines throughout his mouthwatering tasting menu and à la carte dishes, which tell his personal story of Sicily. "When you have great raw materials, you don't need to alter the ingredients. You just need to know how to enhance them," says the chef.

Accompanying the culinary works of art is a menu of over 400 wines selected by our sommelier. Whet your appetite before dinner with cocktails infused with Sicilian ingredients and relax afterwards over an exclusive spirit, such as Romano Levi Grappa, a herbal infusion crafted by the Museo dell'Erboristeria of Catania, or an aromatic coffee brewed in a traditional siphon.

As we count down the days to Otto Geleng's 2019 opening, let us thank the restaurant's namesake for his vision 146 years ago and raise a toast to many nights of unparalleled Sicilian cuisine.



ROBERTO ON...

Childhood passions

Smelling the bread my mother had just baked as I returned home from school.

Sicily

Being a chef on this island is a privilege because the richness and quality of our produce allows me to fully express myself (left and below).

Inspiration

I try to convey the world of emotions I experienced as a child watching my mother cook, but there is no chaos in my kitchen! I prefer not to distort ingredients with special effects, but I enjoy experimenting with new techniques.

Dream guest

I would like to have Sophia Loren at a table in my restaurant. She's given so much to our country and the world.

Essential ingredient

Onion - it is the basis of all my food.

Comfort food

Spaghetti al pomodoro: it is a simple and complete dish that contains all the elements of the Mediterranean diet.

OTTO: AHEAD OF HIS TIME

Though just 20 years old when he first visited Taormina, Otto Geleng was beyond his years when it came to spotting an opportunity. Drawn by the allure of Sicily and, specifically, Taormina, he encouraged Francesco La Floresta, a local man he stayed with on his visits, to open up his mansion to guests and to name the mansion "Timeo" after the son of the town's Greek founder. Geleng, whose paintings of Taormina's picturesque landscapes had wowed many in prestigious art circles, went on to marry a local woman and make this corner of Sicily his home. As well as being responsible for opening up the town to international tourism, he was appointed its deputy mayor for 10 years.

Reserve your table at belmond.com/ottogeleng



ART & DINE

- MALLORCA, SPAIN -

An engaging new experience at Belmond La Residencia allows you to dine around the artworks.

Sip a cocktail by a Miró, sample a starter by an Arturo Rhodes: in our exceptional Art & Dine experience, we'll take you on a dynamic tour of the hotel's most striking artworks, serving exquisite food and drink at every stop.

Begin in the sculpture garden with our signature Miró cocktail next to the artist's La Tête, and learn about our unparalleled art collection. Then stroll along to Sa Tafona Gallery for an amuse-bouche and maybe peek into our sculptor's studio next door. Your next stop introduces you to the Van

Gogh-inspired Vincent's Letter to Theo, a painting by charismatic local artist Arturo Rhodes. Enter El Olivo Restaurant to admire a beautiful portrayal of Deià's landscape by the late George Sheridan. His friend, our Executive Chef Guillermo Méndez, has created a dish inspired by the work, which you might savour at a table set among the easels in the studio of our resident artist, Alan Hydes (above). As the wine flows, so will the conversation, and before long the evening finishes in fine style with dessert or a digestif on the terrace of Caf  Mir . Available for 2-4 people, on request.

Find out more at belmond.com/laresidencia

TASTES OF THE LAND

- PORTOFINO, ITALY -

Dig into Portofino's agricultural heritage with three enticing new experiences at La Portofinese.

Portofino's wild, rocky promontory is home to burgeoning eco-farm La Portofinese. Here, Mino and his family have recovered abandoned land, revived traditional cultivation techniques, brought ancient vines back to life and set up beehives overlooking the bay. Their craft beer, honey and olive oil are already gastronomic triumphs; now sparkling wine has entered the picture.



Choose from a trio of exclusive experiences from Belmond Hotel Splendido or Belmond Splendido Mare to discover the new wonders of this exceptional farm.

Jump into the saddle for a three-hour guided mountain bike tour that takes you along the stunning coastline. Learn about the beautiful protected park before reaching La Portofinese for a tasting on a panoramic shared table with a stunning sea view (main image). No ordinary venue, this is the only vineyard in Portofino where you can gaze over the glittering Ligurian Sea as you sip or sample zero-km specialities grown on the farm.

GOING UNDERGROUND

Or forget the pedalling and plunge straight into the vineyards. Meet the wine grower and learn about local grape varieties and how to prune like a pro. Return to Portofino and head below ground for an atmospheric tasting (inset left). "The tunnel where we offer wine tastings was constructed by my family in the immediate post-war period," explains Mino. "As it's immediately beneath our olive grove, we decided to make use of it. Given its location and sustainable geothermal energy, it's the perfect place to store the sparkling wine we make at La Portofinese."

Can you imagine bustling, glamorous Portofino as a small fishing village? Our third experience takes you back in time to the Antica Osteria, where Mino's ancestors - among the original Portofino families - would meet. "The osteria, or tavern, was where locals would come to dye their fishing nets before gathering to share a meal together," he explains. "Over time, we've redecorated it with original furnishings from another old, local tavern belonging to a distant uncle. It's a special place for us, where we've always shared the most beautiful moments with our family and friends." You're exclusively invited to do likewise, as you browse Mino's enchanting family archives and savour authentic Ligurian specialities grown on his land.

Discover more at belmond.com/hotelsplendido



ON THE TRUFFLE TRAIL

- TUSCANY, ITALY -

Hunt for the prized tubers at Belmond Castello di Casole and enjoy a 360-degree truffle experience.

Unearth Tuscany's gastronomic buried treasure in the forested grounds of Belmond Castello di Casole. You'll be in the best hands - and paws. For you'll be guided by an expert hunter, Mauro Nesi, and his keen-nosed Lagotto Romagnolo dog (above). Not only will you come away with a precious truffle, but you'll witness the heart-warming, symbiotic relationship between man and hound.

Mauro's hunting friend is a typical water dog with endearing curly hair. "My Romagnolo is loyal, keen, affectionate, very attached to me, but sociable with others - a great companion on a truffle hunt," he says.

With their amazing sense of smell these dogs can detect a truffle from 100 metres away. But it takes training. "I begin when they're puppies," explains Mauro. "I hide truffles inside toys and they run to look for them. It's fun! Over

time, their sense of smell improves so they can locate the precious fungi, which is often several centimetres below ground."

Once back at the hotel, the thrills continue. Join us at the bar for a Truffle Diamond Martini, crafted from organic vodka, Carpano Extra Dry and truffle oil drops, or a tempting non-alcoholic option. Snack on delicacies such as pecorino fondue with black truffle and bread sticks or sheep's cheese and black truffle tarts.

Sit down to a sumptuous four-course dinner, devised by our Executive Chef, Daniele Sera. Eggs, taglierini, Tosca fillet and even parfait are all exquisitely enhanced with the tuber.

You can even indulge at the spa. Our Special Truffle Experience body therapy uses pure truffle extract to exfoliate and tone the skin, leaving you with a healthy Tuscan glow.



ENCHANTED TABLE

Dine beneath the trees in Belmond Castello di Casole's ancient forest.

When Earl Edoardo Visconti, brother of the film director Luchino, owned our estate, he adored the ancient forest with its towering oaks and shady glades just a stone's throw from the castle.

Now you can experience your own deep connection with nature at a magical dinner beneath the centenarian trees. Let us suspend a table for six from a strong oak branch, hang a candelabra and twinkling lights to illuminate the scene and serve you a bespoke gourmet menu. Be hypnotised by the sun setting through the groves and later the moon gleaming behind the castle. Alternatively, in the warm afternoon, bring your family to this sylvan setting for a traditional Tuscan *merenda*, a spread of snacks including cheeses, hams and grape cake. In no time at all, you'll be in another world.



CHEESE MASTERS

Enjoy delicious home cooking with a family of farmers in an idyllic Tuscan setting.

A handpainted wooden sign, saying Formaggeria, points you in the direction of an ancient stone building. Inhale the scents of roses and glance across patchwork fields to the enchanting hilltop town of Radicondoli. This is organic Tuscan farm Podere Paugnano, where husband and wife team Giovanni and Giovanna, with their two daughters, specialise in making 10 different cheeses using sheep's milk from their large flock. These include the exclusive Pecorino Marzolino di Lucardo, made to an original recipe found in a 14th-century Boccaccio novel.

In our exclusive experience, the family opens the doors of their home and invites you in. Relax with them at their sun-dappled table as Giovanna prepares dishes inspired by her Sardinian childhood. She prepares everything from scratch, using the farm's own produce and sometimes adding local specialities such as Belforte honey and bread from Montalcinello. Before or after your feast, take a tour to learn how the sheep are milked, the cheeses made and the olives harvested, and relax into the bucolic pleasures of Tuscan life.

Tempted? Find out more at belmond.com/castellodicasole





MEET THE STARS

- MADEIRA, PORTUGAL -

Following the success of our inaugural gastronomic festival, we're delighted to invite you to our second edition of *The Art of Flavours* at Belmond Reid's Palace.

Hosted by our own Luís Pestana, Executive Chef of Michelin-starred William Restaurant, this phenomenal event sees a constellation of outstanding chefs gather to create a flavour-filled, three-day gastronomic adventure on the island of Madeira.

On day one, you will join inspiring masterclasses with two of the Michelin-starred chefs. The next day, all of the culinary wizards spring into action, preparing specialities at live cooking stations set around our magical pool. This lavish outdoor party also includes enticing displays from local food and wine producers, sounds from a celebrated DJ and fireworks over Funchal Bay. The showstopping finale on the final day is a tasting menu like no other at William Restaurant. Each chef devises a dish in a star-studded collaboration, blending hearts, minds and Madeira's most magnificent ingredients.

Join us from 14-16 June, 2019. belmond.com/theartofflavours



RENAISSANCE APPETITE

- FLORENCE, ITALY -

"What would Leonardo eat?" is not an oft-heard refrain. But for the 500th anniversary of da Vinci's death, Belmond Villa San Michele is exploring his artistic *and* his culinary passions.

Most people are familiar with Leonardo da Vinci's mind-boggling achievements. This is the man who, in the 15th century, devised the first flying machine, diving suit and armoured car, painted *The Last Supper* and made monumental discoveries about the human anatomy. What's less well-known is his interest in food.

In the 1480s, years before he created his most famous works, he worked in Milan for the ruling Sforza family. Among his many roles there, he was the Maestro dei Convivii, meaning he personally chose the food that would be served to the family.

He experimented with herbs and spices such as turmeric, saffron and poppy seeds; favoured healthy salads and vegetables, and invented gadgets including a spaghetti maker and egg slicer.

Da Vinci even wrote a guide to table etiquette, with advice that showed medieval manners left much to be desired. For example, he urged diners to keep their heads off their plates while eating.

We're confident guests at Belmond Villa San Michele will meet Leonardo's exacting standards as we celebrate his anniversary

with a series of exclusive festivities. We feel a deep connection with the Renaissance polymath as he famously tested his flying machine in Montecceci Park, right above our hotel. Let us take you back to April 17, 1506, when his great friend, Zoroastro da Peretola, attempted to lift off in the Ornitottero, an apparatus inspired by da Vinci's studies of birds. The machine glided for a few metres before crashing, leaving its pilot with a broken leg but an undented spirit.

In memory of the multi-talented pioneer, we invite you to sit down at a shared table under the arches of La Loggia restaurant for an ingenious menu influenced by his food predilections. Dishes will be served from a stand designed exclusively for us by Il Sedicente Moradi, an acclaimed street artist who uses recycled and organic materials in his sculptures. In the bar, order Da Vinci's Dream (below), our artful cocktail inspired by the classic Paper Plane with added alchermes, a favourite Medici liqueur. Meanwhile, around the hotel and gardens, look out for thought-provoking artworks that channel the spirit of the Renaissance giant, from contemporary collages to metal installations.

Discover more at belmond.com/celebrateleonardo



Timeless AFRICA

DISCOVER THE UNTOUCHED WILDERNESS OF BOTSWANA AT OUR THREE BELMOND SAFARI LODGES AND EXPERIENCE THE ROSY GLOW OF BELMOND MOUNT NELSON HOTEL, CAPE TOWN'S ENDURING HIDEAWAY.

A LODGE FOR TODAY'S EXPLORER

Inviting firepits, an eye-level viewing hide and Tuareg-influenced four-poster beds are just some of the inspiring new features at our reimagined Belmond Savute Elephant Lodge.

Conjuring up the feel of a timeless explorers' lodge, the new look pays homage to the Savute region's links with some of the world's greatest explorers – David Livingstone, for example, spent time documenting the incredible wildlife here in 1851. The area is home to the mysterious Savute Channel, which ebbs and flows seemingly at whim, drawing a rich, year-round parade of lions, leopards, elephants, hyenas and antelopes.

Take advantage of our thrilling activities to make the most of your time in Savute. Savour breakfast on your private deck as you watch the elephants at the watering hole. Or embark on a morning game drive and, far from civilisation, stop for brunch and a bespoke G&T in the bush.

Dining options are exciting. Relax over dinner in the outdoor restaurant or opt for a more adventurous private experience in our new viewing hide. On boma nights, feast on barbecued delicacies under the canopy of the Camelthorn acacia as our tuneful staff entertain you with folkloric tales and dances.

Relaxation is key here, and after a busy day of game spotting we recommend you stretch out your muscles with our sequence of 10 yoga poses. Or treat yourself to a ritual at our serene new Thera Naka Spa, set in a secluded tent at the edge of the site.

Created by international designer Inge Moore and architect Graeme Labe, Belmond Savute Elephant Lodge plunges you into your wild surroundings, giving you space to connect with loved ones and feel rejuvenated by nature. Visually calming spaces, filled with rich textures, earthy colours and decorative artisan pieces, encourage relaxation and social interaction. Inge Moore, from Muza Lab, says: "At dusk, a large

firepit tripod welcomes you. It's one of many firepits around the site that act as beacons after dark and create natural gathering points. We've designed an inviting 'lounge in the bush', where you can unwind in generous rattan tub chairs with a cocktail and soak up the vistas. In your guest tent, handmade blue and ivory-toned rope chandeliers create dancing shadows at night. Step onto the terrace to discover a huge canopied daybed – perfect for naps."

The Lodge's groundbreaking sustainable design means you can be confident of leaving a light footprint. A raft of initiatives, many of them firsts for Botswana, ranged from replacing concrete structures with timber, bamboo and local thatch to introducing state-of-the-art solar power and water filtration systems. Graeme Labe, from Johannesburg-based Luxury Frontiers, says: "Any structure we design has a truly experiential function. This is particularly true of the game viewing hide, which is probably the most fantastic guest experience at the Lodge. Its design is beautifully simple, but allows you to come face to face with the activity round the water hole."

For the ultimate safari experience, stay at all three of our fabulous lodges in Botswana, including Belmond Khwai River Lodge in the Moremi Game Reserve and Belmond Eagle Island Lodge in the Okavango Delta. Or join us for a never-to-be-repeated six-night escape from 16-22 April, 2019. In partnership with the London Philharmonic Orchestra, the twin-centre adventure includes a live concert at Belmond Eagle Island Lodge. What will the wind quintet play? Saint-Saëns' majestic *Carnival of the Animals*, naturally. It's the final event in Belmond's The Wonder Collection series, which has seen LPO musicians perform against a backdrop of Mount Etna, in Sicily, and in front of Brazil's thundering Iguassu Falls.

Start your adventure at belmond.com/africa



“Pink represents friendship, affection, harmony, inner peace and approachability – all adjectives that are inextricably linked to Belmond Mount Nelson Hotel.”



IN THE PINK

COMBINE YOUR SAFARI WITH A STAY AT BELMOND MOUNT NELSON HOTEL IN CAPE TOWN'S BUZZING HEART.

There's never been a better time to visit our leafy hideaway, which is currently celebrating 100 years of its iconic colour. The buildings gained their rosy hue at the end of World War I, when the general manager at the time, Aldo Renato, wanted to symbolise the dawn of a new era. To mark the pink centenary, and all the hope, love and passion that it evokes, we invite you to enjoy a year of surprises.

They begin as you enter the hotel's famous Prince of Wales Arch, illuminated in a rosy glow. You'll notice coral-coloured rose beds, be able to choose from a menu of pink cocktails (with recipes supplied by Belmond hotels around the world) and indulge in afternoon tea delicacies decorated for the occasion. (You'll naturally want blush champagne or pink gin to accompany these.) Treat yourself to a fragrant rose-petal oil massage in Librisa Spa and visit the Touch of Pink art exhibition, curated by our acclaimed artist-in-residence, Cyril Coetzee. Cyril, whose distinguished sitters have included Nelson Mandela, hosts sell-out workshops and a number of his students have been excitedly working towards the show, which launches in April.

“Pink represents friendship, affection, harmony, inner peace and approachability – all adjectives that are inextricably linked to gracious hospitality and our hotel's longstanding heritage,” comments General Manager Xavier Lablaude. “We're proud to be dressed in the same colour that has made our property an instantly recognisable and timeless icon.”

The future's looking rosy!

Embark on an epic adventure: our 10-night Journey to the Heart of Africa begins in Johannesburg and includes stays in all three Belmond Safari Lodges and at Belmond Mount Nelson Hotel. #BelmondTouchofPink



ADVENTURES IN

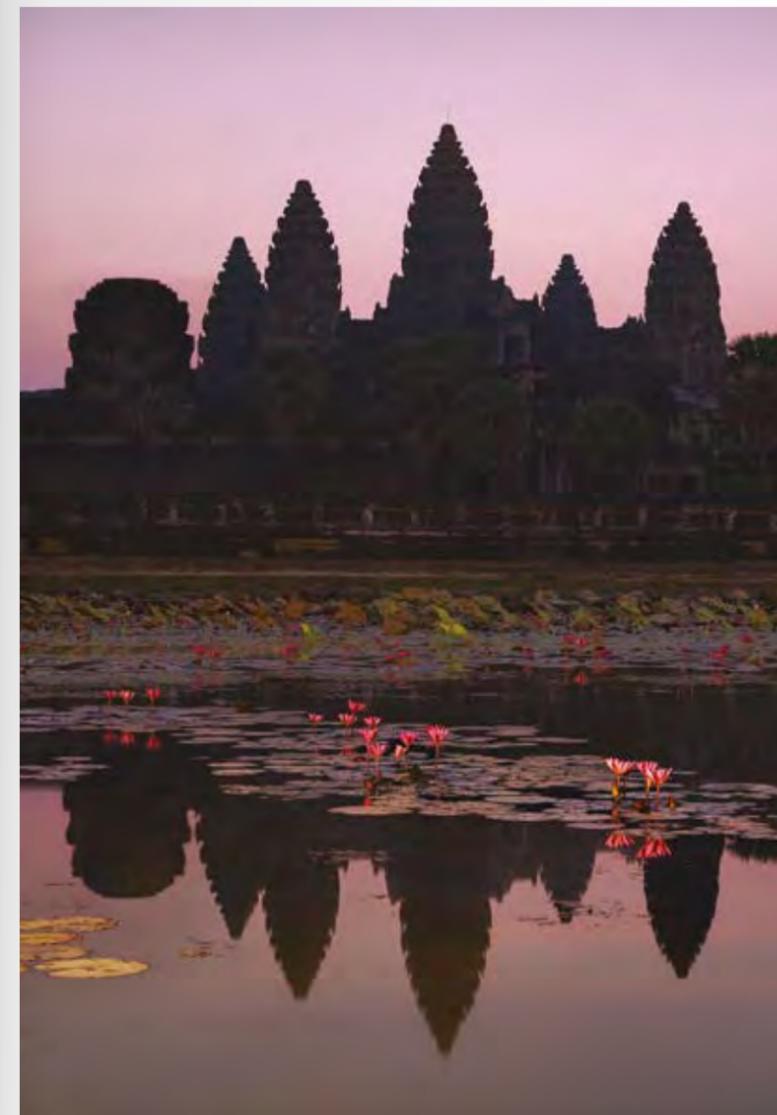
—ASIA—

CUSTOMISE A GRAND TOUR TO EXPLORE
THE TREASURES OF SOUTHEAST ASIA AND
EXPERIENCE OUR ENTICING NEW ACTIVITIES.

“Plunge into Southeast Asia, staying at our captivating hotels and voyaging on our romantic train and river cruiser.”



CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE:
 COURSE THROUGH THE JUNGLE
 ABOARD THE EASTERN & ORIENTAL
 EXPRESS; TREAD A QUIET PATH TO SEE
 ANGKOR WAT AT DAWN; LEARN ABOUT
 RURAL LIFE ON A LAOTIAN FARM.



From the majestic temples of Angkor to sun-kissed Koh Samui, Southeast Asia is such a rich travel destination, how do you begin to explore it? We make life simple with our Asia Grand Tour, inviting you to choose seven or 14 nights to personalise your own adventure. Plunge into Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Myanmar and Thailand, staying at our captivating hotels and voyaging on our romantic train and river cruiser.

We'll customise the itinerary to suit your preferences and include some thrilling excursions. Still unsure where to start? Our new experiences in 2019 may help guide your radar.

CAMBODIAN CALM

Enjoy Angkor's mystical jungle in blissful quiet on a 30-minute dawn walk from Belmond La Résidence d'Angkor. Tread a tranquil route, away from the crowds, reaching Angkor Wat in time to watch the sun rise over the majestic temple. Later, treat your taste buds to a private dine-around tuk-tuk tour of Siem Reap's gourmet offerings.

LAOTIAN LIVING

From Belmond La Résidence Phou Vao visit The Living Land, a beautiful community farm just outside Luang Prabang. Discover how rice is cultivated and, with the help of the friendly farmers, try your hand at planting seedlings, ploughing the paddies with the resident buffalo or threshing rice. Break for a relaxing lunch in the rice field, soaking up vistas of the lush mountains.





CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: ADMIRE THE SHWEDAGON PAGODA IN YANGON; SOAK UP THE COLOURS OF KOH SAMUI; WATCH OUT FOR BABY TURTLES IN BALI.

BALINESE RESCUE

Belmond Jimbaran Puri's private beach is a favourite site for sea turtles, who crawl onto the sands at night to lay their eggs before leaving their offspring to their fate. We've teamed up with the Bali Sea Turtle Society to give the tiny hatchlings a helping hand in reaching the water. We invite you to adopt a new-born turtle and personally release it into the sea. Another fantastic way to kick-start your day is with a champagne breakfast aboard our boat, Dedari, as you cruise around beautiful Jimbaran Bay.

ART IN MYANMAR

Join us at Belmond Governor's Residence, in Yangon, for our imaginative new ART'ernoon Tea. Admire changing exhibitions of contemporary Burmese art as you relax in our newly refreshed Mindon Lounge; sip rosé wine and Myanmar loose-leaf teas and indulge in sweet and savoury masterpieces. Proceeds from the experience go to Belmond's free healthcare clinic in Bagan, which treats thousands of patients in Myanmar each year. Why not set sail on a cruise aboard Belmond Road to Mandalay? Meet some of the warm, local communities while enjoying the mesmerising sights along the Ayeyarwady River.

COLOURS OF THAILAND

Multi-coloured butterflies abound in the gardens at Belmond Napasai. To learn more about the 320 different species on Koh Samui, join a morning walk with our expert. Or embark on a night-time fishing expedition, between February and April, to catch your own calamari. Set out on a longtail boat from the hotel's private beach, shining a green beam to attract squid to the surface. Back at the hotel, our chefs can prepare a delicious dish with your catch.

NOW WE'RE COOKING

Aboard the Eastern & Oriental Express, we're delighted to expand our series of pop-up journeys featuring famous chefs. On four select dates in 2019, travel on our Bangkok-Singapore route in the company of either Singaporean pastry chef Janice Wong, Australian supremo Luke Mangan, French and Vietnamese fusion master Didier Corlou or Thailand's first international celebrity chef, Ian Kittichai. Enjoy an exclusive breakfast, afternoon tea and signature dinner, as well as market visits and onboard ateliers.

Start planning at belmond.com/asiagrandtour and belmond.com/easternandorientalexpress



Further
ESCAPES



DISCOVER CONTEMPORARY TUSCAN ART
IN A CUSTOMISED VINTAGE CAR, SAIL
OUT TO REMOTE ATLANTIC ISLANDS IN
SEARCH OF SHY SEALS AND MORE.



ART ON THE MOVE

- TUSCANY, ITALY -

In our Tuscan hotels' latest groundbreaking initiative, we invite you to drive off on thrilling adventures behind the wheel of a vintage, contemporary masterpiece.

We're passionate about art at Belmond Villa San Michele, devising dynamic urban art experiences and site-specific installations to capture our guests' imagination. Now we're proud to unveil our boldest ever artwork: a vintage Fiat Musone customised by Rome-based street artist Lucamaleonte.

This 1950s beauty is characterised by its unusual bonnet and heart-shaped grille resembling a muzzle (*musone*). Its style is similar to the iconic Fiat Topolino (little mouse). Furthermore, as it's electric, it's not only gorgeous but also green.

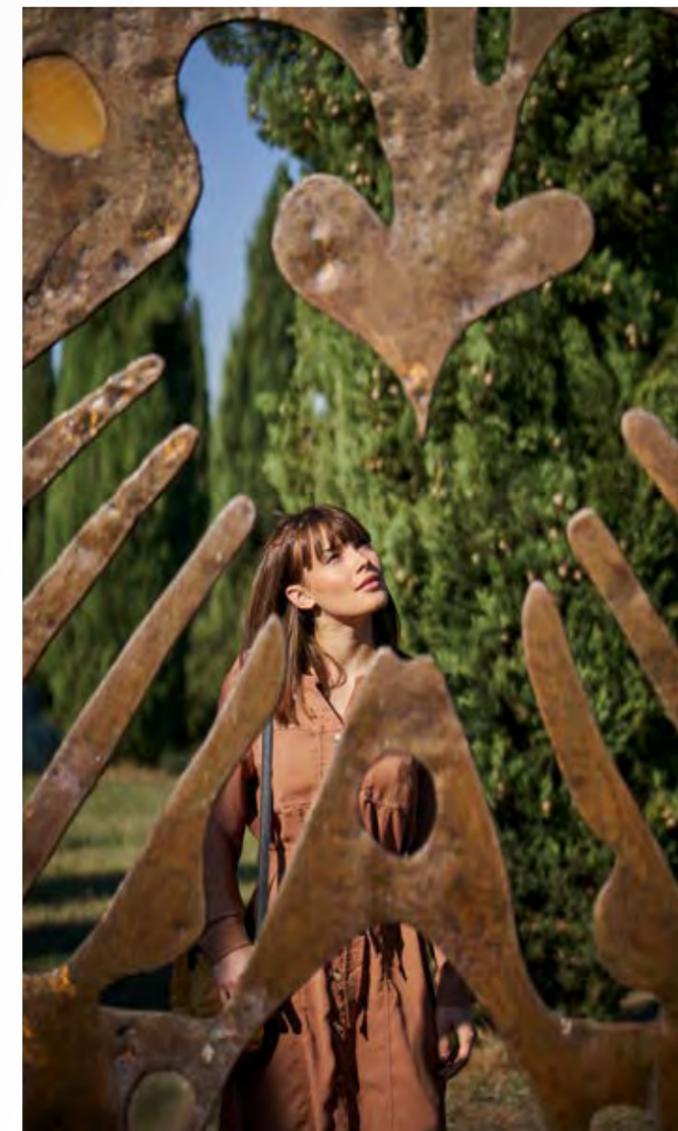
In partnership with Garage Italia Milano, the luxury

customisation service run by Lapo Elkann, grandson of Fiat mogul Gianni Agnelli, the car is being transformed into an artwork by Lucamaleonte. Master of the multi-layered stencil, he creates striking works - giant wasps, birds on olive branches, cherubs among leaves - inspired by nature and ancient art (below). His pseudonym, an adaptation of the Italian word for 'chameleon', hints at how he slips in and out of environments, making his mark without being invasive. The icosahedron he signs his work with symbolises his many facets.

In this eye-catching car we invite you to cause a stir as you explore our beautiful Tuscan surroundings - gently rolling hills and lush vineyards - and share fun moments with your friends and family. For art lovers in particular, we've arranged for you to immerse yourself in two exceptional Tuscan sculpture parks.



© LUCAMALEONTE



BOTH IMAGES © MARTINO DINI

MAN OF IRON

Our first visit for art lovers is Enzo Pazzagli Art Park, overlooking the River Arno, a 15-minute drive from Belmond Villa San Michele.

Pazzagli, a long-time Florentine resident, was initially a businessman but, over the course of his life, he became more and more passionate about iron sculptures, inspired by his goldsmith father. His dream had always been to acquire land to display his sculptures and other works of art. In 2001, he transformed a vast swathe of land into a verdant park, planting 300 cypresses which, when seen from the sky, form a smiling face. He dotted his own works, and those of fellow sculptors, among the trees. He remained an active artist until his death two years ago, aged 84.

Today, 200 pieces fill the space, which is now managed by Massimiliano Silvestri of EcoRinascimento, an urban design company that blends art and ecology. Their photovoltaic flowers can also be seen in the park, alongside huge satirical statues from the annual Viareggio Carnival.

As the sun shines down, casting cypress-straight shadows on the lush grass or bouncing off a gleaming bronze, lose yourself among steel characters, whose layers of plexiglass create mesmerising, multi-coloured reflections (above). Find yourself smiling or being intrigued, surrounded by hills scattered with Medici villas. Have fun on a bespoke family treasure hunt, exclusive to our guests, or take part in an engaging art workshop.

MAKING MUSIC

Metalwork is also a key feature of our second park, but it plays a very different role. Hidden among dense forest in Boccheggiano, not far from Belmond Castello di Casole, the Giardino dei Suoni (Garden of Sounds) is all-but invisible to the casual eye. Its designer, eccentric Bavarian artist Paul Fuchs, claims only those who vibrate at his frequency can find it.

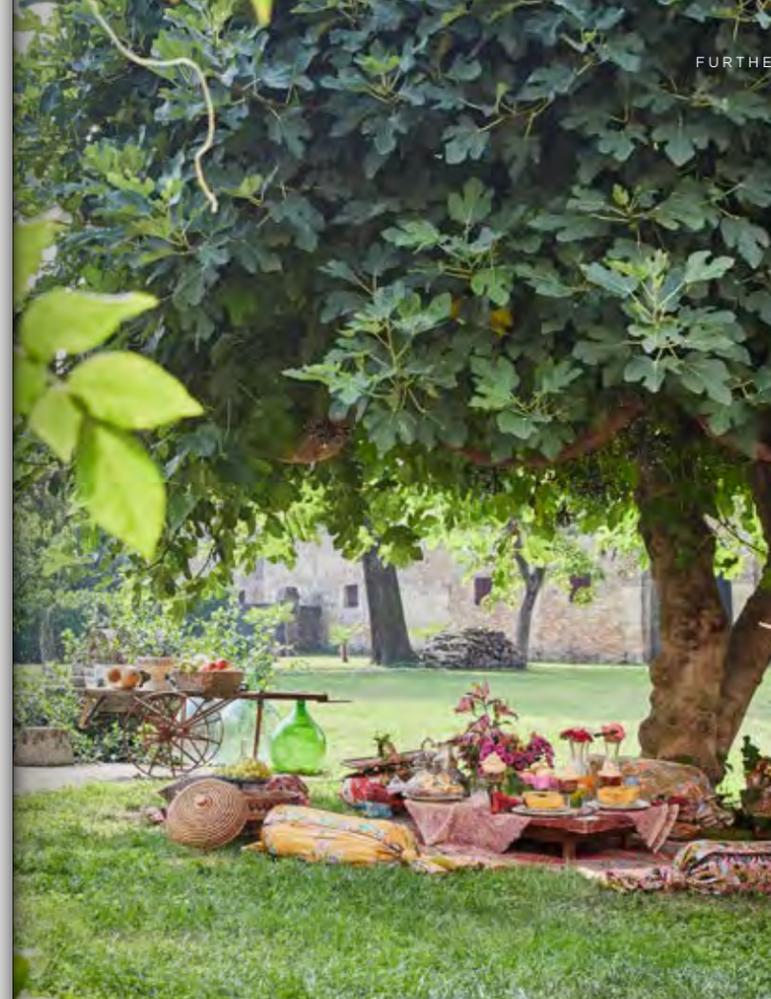
When you enter, having parked in the woods, you'll feel as if you've been transported to another world. Paul (below left) and his wife welcome you and lead you through the surreal landscape. As you walk, the sounds of nature combine with those of his sculptures being "played" by the wind.

Fuchs, a trained blacksmith, works in harmony with nature, using fire, water, air and earth to cast, forge and sculpt his abstract works, then leaving them to the elements to corrode. Even when they tower 32 metres in the air, they blend into the landscape (below right).

Some of his sculptures appear fragile and spindly, others are lofty monuments of copper, iron and bronze. All emit sounds according to the direction and intensity of the wind. They sway and swing, chime and clang, or produce a symphony of gentle reverberation.

Continue through this magical world towards the artist's welcoming home. Paul will perform a little concert using some of his sculptures before you enter his music room, where he plays on unconventional instruments of his own invention. Individually they may produce awkward, jarring sounds, but played in unison (many are automated, so he can work them himself) they create harmonious melodies. "I connect music and sculpture," says the likeable artist. "Music is the most important part of my art."

Find out more about our art tours at belmond.com/artonthemove



IN TIEPOLO'S FOOTSTEPS

- VENICE, ITALY -

Escape to The Tiepolo Lands, where magnificent villas, traditional taverns and timeless village festivals whisk you far from the whirlwind of La Serenissima.

The lush region of Mirano was long a place of refuge for Venetian nobles, who sought out the light, space and greenery of the countryside to build their sumptuous villas. Among those who resided here were the great Italian Rococo painter, Giambattista Tiepolo, and his son Giandomenico. On a tour from Belmond Hotel Cipriani, we invite you to discover the spaces that inspired them.

A short journey by water taxi and private car brings you to Villa Tiepolo, where the father and son lived at different times in the 1700s. Afterwards you may wish to explore Villa Bianchini, set in an expansive park, where you can see a beautiful Tiepolo fresco; Zianigo Parish Church, which houses a number of Tiepolo paintings and, a little further away in Massanzago, Villa Baglioni, where vibrant frescos feature Giambattista's signature blue sky.

Then we have a wonderful lunchtime surprise lined up. Linger over a chic picnic in the walled garden of a stunning 17th-century barn at the Canonici di San Marco. Surrounded by cornfields and orchards, on a peaceful stretch of countryside between the Venetian Lagoon and the Brenta River, the setting makes it abundantly clear why doges and Venetian nobles used to retreat here for the summer.

Recline on plush cushions beneath an ancient fig tree (above left), choosing home-cooked delicacies served on vintage china. Or sit down to an irresistible spread inside the barn. This is a glorious location, where antiques and objects acquired on far-flung travels or from flea markets enliven the rustic space (above right).

CRAFT YOUR OWN FRESCOS

Looking to explore your own creative talents? Join us in the Casanova Gardens at Belmond Hotel Cipriani for an alfresco art class. Your tutors are esteemed Florentine artists from the Iguarnieri family, who keep Renaissance art alive by mixing ancient methods with contemporary style. At a table beneath the vine-covered pergola you'll learn techniques including chiaroscuro and three-dimensional effects. Make several sketches before transferring your works onto plaster and wood to create the fresco. Finally, toast your group's accomplishments with a well-earned cocktail and take away your artwork as a memento. The sessions last up to 2.5 hours and are available at 15:00 on the following dates: 16 April, 14 May, 15 October.

Find out more at belmond.com/gourmeteurope



VOYAGE TO THE DESERTAS

- MADEIRA, PORTUGAL -

This adventure will enchant all the family. Take a thrilling boat ride to Madeira's Desertas Islands (far right), where Zarco, much-loved mascot of Belmond Reid's Palace, and his real-life monk seal chums hide in the caverns and grottos.

You may have already fallen in love with cuddly Zarco; now we've adopted a real monk seal, whose home is in the remote Desertas Islands. We invite you on an exciting private cruise to see where he lives and learn all about these remarkable, uninhabited islands.

Part of the Madeiran archipelago, the Desertas are three rocky slivers located about 26km southeast of Madeira. The biggest, Deserta Grande, is 12km long, characterised by towering red and grey cliffs clad in scrubby vegetation. Together with the flat Ilhéu Chão and hump-backed Bugio, the volcanic trio is sometimes referred to as the Galapagos of Europe, a haven for rare and endangered wildlife.

Most marvellous are the Mediterranean monk seals (above), which can reach up to 3 metres in length and 300kg in weight. The islands are an important refuge for the seals; of only a few hundred left in the world, a colony of around 25 monk seals finds sanctuary here. Our own Zarco is named after João Gonçalves Zarco, who discovered the Madeira Archipelago.

WILD WORLD

The seals are not the only special inhabitants of the islands. Intriguing sea life includes the Barred hogfish, Mediterranean slipper lobster and several species of turtles, while in the skies rich birdlife ranges from kestrels, canaries and buzzards to possibly the largest colony of Bulwer's petrel in the Atlantic.

But first you have to get there. We've provided a beautiful Princess V50 yacht, seating up to eight people. Choose from two itineraries departing from Belmond Reid's Palace. In the first, we take you to the marina at Caniçal, a 30-minute drive away by limousine, where you board the yacht for a 45-minute sail to the islands. In the second, you leave from Funchal Marina with the outward voyage taking 90 minutes.

Your private butler will serve champagne and luscious fruit as you sail through the Atlantic Ocean (above). On reaching the islands, take a dip in the crystalline water before enjoying lunch on board. Then alight to explore Deserta Grande with an expert guide. If you're in luck, Zarco will be at home – though he and his friends can be elusive. After a fascinating hour, set sail homewards, perhaps spotting dolphins or pilot whales along the way.

Walk on the wild side with belmond.com/gourmeteurope

TAKE ZARCO TO TEA

Zarco has a special place in our hearts at Belmond Reid's Palace. As a welcome gift to young guests, we present him in the form of a cuddly toy, together with themed colouring pencils, a canvas bag and other treats. And he's welcome to join them on fun activities, such as the General Manager's mocktail party at the Kids' Club.

By supporting Zarco, you're helping towards the recovery of the monk seal population. Belmond Reid's Palace gives an annual donation to the conservation charity. We also donate 20% from any Zarco-themed gifts you purchase in our Boutique.





FLAVOURS *of* PERU

Find out what all the buzz is about with a culinary tour of Peru. We'll take you on a delicious gastronomic journey from Lima to the Sacred Valley and Lake Titicaca.

From cutting-edge restaurant cuisine to alfresco Mother Earth lunches, Peru offers an all-embracing experience for the gourmet traveller. Join us on a 10-night tour taking in a smorgasbord of culinary highlights as you explore awe-inspiring Inca marvels, breathtaking landscapes and vibrant towns.

You'll begin in Lima, staying at Belmond Miraflores Park overlooking the Pacific Ocean. Spend a day of discovery in the capital, renowned as one of the hottest foodie destinations in the world. Explore colourful Surquillo Market with our chef and learn how to prepare ceviche. Continue exploring Lima's majestic sights in the afternoon, including the largest exhibition of colonial religious art in America.

PREVIOUS PAGE: BELMOND LAS CASITAS' CHEFS SERVE LOCAL SPECIALITIES AT CONDOR'S CROSS. THIS PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM RIGHT: JOURNEY ABOARD BELMOND ANDEAN EXPLORER; SIP FRESH HERBAL TEA ON THE MOVE; RELAX AT BELMOND PALACIO NAZARENAS; FEAST ALFRESCO AT BELMOND HOTEL RIO SAGRADO.



SUNRISES AND SURPRISES

We've teamed up with Q'omer Wasicha, a community tea-growing project, to offer herbal teas aboard our two trains in Peru. Choose from fresh muña, melissa, mint or camomile and discover more about the people who cultivate them in greenhouses set up by Belmond and PeruRail.

Start the day with sunrise yoga on the banks of Lake Titicaca. From April, up to 10 guests on Belmond Andean Explorer's Peruvian Highlands and Spirit of the Water routes can enjoy a magical 45-minute hatha yoga class with our spa therapist.

Looking to propose? Let us help you plan the perfect moment aboard Belmond Hiram Bingham. We'll provide a private space, a beautiful ring box, musicians to play your favourite song and Veuve Clicquot champagne for when the answer's yes.

Find out more at belmond.com/perufoodadventure



SACRED HIGHLIGHTS

Your next stop is the Sacred Valley of the Incas, where you check into Belmond Hotel Rio Sagrado, our lush retreat beside the Urubamba River. Take a tour of our organic garden before enjoying a succulent BBQ lunch by the river or, if you're in a group of 10 or more, indulge in an ancient Pachamanca (Mother Earth) dish cooked over hot stones in the ground.

The following day, board the luxurious Belmond Hiram Bingham train for an exhilarating ride to Machu Picchu and spend spellbinding hours exploring the citadel. Enjoy a sumptuous dinner on your return journey.

Your next destination is the amazing Inca fortress of Ollantaytambo. Here you can join in with local activities such as harvesting potatoes and making *uchucuta* (Peruvian salsa) with the Huilloc community.

Check in to Belmond Palacio Nazarenas, our all-suite hideaway in the heart of Cusco, for two nights, and enjoy an operatic dinner at our sister hotel. Plunge into San Pedro market, soaking up the scents and scenes of daily life, and later visit the magnificent Inca fortress of Sacsayhuamán.

LAKES AND CANYONS

The adventure continues with a two-night journey aboard Belmond Andean Explorer, coursing from Cusco to Arequipa along one of the highest rail routes in the world. Awake to see the sun rise over Lake Titicaca before sailing out to visit the extraordinary Uros floating islands. On board, savour regional classics crafted by our chefs. Your final morning on board brings you to magnificent Lagunillas Lake, a haven for wildlife, and the fascinating Sumbay Caves.

After your rail journey, slip into the gentle pace of life at Belmond Las Casitas in the Colca Canyon. Explore our organic gardens and participate in a cookery class. Visit the Condor's Cross to catch sight of magnificent raptors gliding on the thermals and explore the enchanting village of Maca. For groups of 10 or more we can prepare a delectable alfresco breakfast, including tasty local specialities such as *lomo saltado* (sautéed beef) and *aji de gallina* (chicken in yellow chilli sauce).

On the final day, with a head full of flavoursome memories, return to Arequipa International Airport for your flight to Lima and home.



Sparkling Society



ITALIAN HOSPITALITY IS LIKE THE ITALIAN LIFESTYLE: SPARKLING. LET US INTRODUCE YOU TO THE ECLECTIC PERSONALITIES AT OUR BARS AND RESTAURANTS WHO WILL MAKE YOUR EXPERIENCE EFFERVESCENT.

Agostino D'Angelo, Executive Chef (top left)
at *Belmond Villa Sant'Andrea*

Vibrant evenings by the sea are assured with Agostino's sumptuous menu of finger food and Sicilian sparkling wine. "Let me dazzle you with my live cooking skills during barbecues and parties on the beach!"

Antonio Beccalli, Bar Supervisor (top right)
at *Belmond Hotel Splendido*

"I remember Frank Sinatra visiting our cocktail bar many years ago," says Antonio, a much-loved face at our Portofino hideaway since 1970. "He got up and sang with the pianist. I've welcomed Bono, Rod Stewart and Madonna... Elizabeth Taylor loved Bellinis. To this day, I still serve 10,000 of the peachy cocktails every season."



Alessandro Pugliese, Restaurant Manager (above left)
at *Giudecca 10, Belmond Hotel Cipriani*

The history and passion behind each bottle are just as important to Alessandro as the nose and taste. "Join me on a sailing tour aboard a beautiful boat and I'll tell you fascinating stories behind the legendary lagoon wines."

Lorenzo Aiosa, Bartender (above right)
at *Belmond Villa San Michele*

A fan of mixology since the age of 16, our Florentine barman loves inventing exciting new cocktails. He says the ingredients of his job are "one-third passion, one-third culture and one-third commitment - served with a zest for creativity."

Tommaso Mansi, Head Barman (left)
at *Belmond Hotel Caruso*

Tommaso's contagious smile - and love of the local Sfusato Amalfitano lemons - draws you into our bar overlooking the Amalfi Coast. "I invite you to create a cocktail based on your own personal life story. It can be either sweet or bitter, depending on how much you're willing to reveal!"



WOMEN OF WINE

In a world traditionally dominated by men, our four Belmond sommeliers are leading the way.

"Being a sommelier is not just a job, but a way of thinking," says Anna Cardin (top left) from Michelin-starred Oro at Belmond Hotel Cipriani, in Venice. Her daily challenge is to bring people closer to wine. "I do a 'double taste'," she says. "If there's a couple, I let them both taste the wine. It's a nice moment to share and it helps break the ice."

At neighbouring Cip's Club, Marianna Cappotto has built up a fabulous list of 650 oenological pearls, introducing both cult wines and labels from smaller producers. Her greatest joy is when a customer tastes her recommendation and says: 'That's exactly what I was after'.

Keen traveller Simona Di Goro (bottom left) is from Tuscany, but was lured to Belmond Grand Hotel Timeo by the rich stories behind many Sicilian labels. She fell in love with the mineral wines of Etna, and was inspired by the female owner of a well-known winery who had moved from Tuscany for exactly the same reasons - a kindred spirit!

They call Maina Macri the "Princess of Sciacchetrà". Presiding over a cellar of 500 wines at Belmond Hotel Splendido's La Terrazza Restaurant, she conquers the hearts of her guests by offering them a glass of the nectar-like dessert wine after dinner. "Sciacchetrà represents decades of hard work by the families of the Cinque Terre to preserve their tradition," she says. "A spirit lives within each bottle."



RAISING THE BAR

Discover our sparkling venues that meld spectacular settings with a vivacious atmosphere.

In the bustling Piazzetta in Portofino, pull up a chair at our new Ferrari Corner for a glass of sparkling wine and gourmet appetisers. Relish life to the full, just as Liza Minnelli, Clark Gable and Barbra Streisand have done before you in the Italian Riviera's chicest harbour. Ask us about private parties, too.

Recline on soft leather among leopard-print cushions at Belmond Villa San Michele's glamorous Cloister Bar (right), where expansive gardens overlooking Florence create a magical setting for summer evenings. During the warmer months our inventive bartenders put their unique stamp on weekly sparkling events: indulge in a picnic in the gardens, wandering through the grass to find your perfect vantage point, or join the Dolce Night, gathering sweet-toothed friends for a package of decadent desserts and ice creams (different sizes are available!)

Join the party at Bubbles Garden, Belmond Hotel Caruso's fabulous boîte on the Amalfi Coast. Set on the ancient colonnade, with dramatic views of Scala and the Mediterranean Sea, the scene embraces artisan-crafted ceramic tables and twinkling candles suspended from the trees. Order chilled Ferrari fizz to savour with Carmasciando cheese plates, black truffles and exquisite sushi.

Join our sparkling society at belmond.com/barsofbelmond



RECIPES PRESERVED

- VENICE, ITALY -

Master the art of making the perfect Bellini at Belmond Hotel Cipriani's summer academy.

There are no shortcuts to making an authentic Bellini. "Giuseppe Cipriani made me promise that I would never change the original recipe, in which white, well-ripened, unpeeled peaches should be crushed in a conical strainer to extract the nectar before pure Prosecco is added," says our Head Barman, Walter Bolzonella (above, centre).

As with all good legends, mystery surrounds the drink's invention. It may have been inspired by a Giovanni Bellini painting or by the sun setting over the lagoon. What is indisputable is its enduring popularity ever since Belmond Hotel Cipriani's founder, Giuseppe, introduced it in 1948.

Sounds simple? Try your hand under Walter's exacting eye at our Bellini Academy, held on Bar Gabbiano's terrace on **6 June, 11 July and 8 August 2019.**

Or learn superior ways to pickle and preserve with help from our celebrated chefs.

During a two-hour class with either Chef Davide Bisetto of Michelin-starred Oro or Chef Roberto Gatto of legendary Cip's Club, you'll gather succulent organic vegetables and fruits from the hotel's synergistic garden, before moving to the shaded pergola to prepare your ingredients. The tuition continues beneath Oro's golden dome, where tasty snacks - such as pickled garden vegetables or asparagus canapés - are served to keep hunger at bay.

2019 dates

- 22 May - White asparagus
- 19 June - Peaches
- 24 July - Marinated aubergine
- 21 August - Tomatoes
- 18 September - Plum and fig jam
- 23 October - Pickled garden vegetables

Find out more at belmond.com/hotelcipriani



Grape Expectations

CALLING ALL WINE LOVERS: YOUR CUP RUNNETH OVER WITH EXCLUSIVE EXPERIENCES, FROM VINEYARD TOURS TO A BUCKET LIST BY-THE-GLASS MENU.



IN HARMONY WITH WINE

- MALLORCA, SPAIN -

Far off the beaten track, down a bumpy road near Manacor, lies the 15th-century Son Sureda Ric winery. On an exclusive trip from Belmond La Residencia, a knowledgeable driver will take you through unspoilt villages and landscapes to visit this family-run business and meet its passionate oenologist.

Join Javier Jara (left) for a cool drink in a shady spot as he tells you about his property. It was acquired by his grandfather, one of the first “green” farmers on the island, who passed his revolutionary ideas onto his son. “My father was talking about ecology in the 1960s,” says Javier. “His example and ideas have influenced everything we do in our *finca*.”

Stroll round the verdant estate, learning about the love and care this hard-working family puts into their wines and other products, such as honey. You’ll finish in a stone-clad courtyard, where Javier treats you to a tasting of his favourite bottles. “Our high-quality organic grapes are especially suitable for long-ageing reds,” he explains. “More and more I’m enjoying our oldest wines, for example the Rogent 2005. If you’re patient, wines still reveal surprising qualities.”

It’s now lunchtime, and after a feast of homemade, organic specialties, take your glass and settle in the ancient chapel to discover another string to Javier’s bow. The accomplished guitarist entertains you with bossa nova as his wife Carmè, the marketing brain behind the vineyard, bewitches you with her soothing voice. “Actually, I feel the sensory experiences relating to wine and music have much in common,” says Javier.

Remember you’re not driving, so linger a while and soak up the ambience before leaving Son Sureda Ric’s enchanting gates.

Escape with us at belmond.com/laresidencia

RARE FINDS

- CARIBBEAN & NORTH AMERICA -

An idyllic island in the French West Indies may not be the first place you'd expect to find a cellar full of rare Bordeaux and vintage wines. Yet at Belmond La Samanna, on the island of St Martin, the 12,000-bottle collection is among its most prized treasures. Built in 1972, two storeys below sea level, La Cave was the passionate project of previous oenophile owner, Mr Frankel.

Emerging fresh from a complete renovation, the cellar is looking particularly inviting (right). Join us for a cellar tour or special degustation. Step into the intimate space through the terrace beneath our restaurant, L'Oursin, and you'll feel transported from the glittering Caribbean into an almost medieval ambience. Why not host a sumptuous private dinner for up to 14 guests – curate a tasting menu with our Executive Chef, then have our Sommelier walk you through the best bottles to complement each dish. Make sure to sample our private-label Burgundy, Hospices de Beaune La Samanna, in the candlelit cosiness of La Cave. Or choose a Grand Cru to sip overlooking the ocean from the balcony of L'Oursin.

LABELLED WITH LOVE

Own-label wines are a growing trend at our properties. At Belmond El Encanto, our hillside retreat in Santa Barbara, we've paired up with the experts at Sunstone Winery to launch two custom-blend labels. Our team worked closely with esteemed winemaker Bion Rice at the organic, family-run winery to create a rich red – Enchanted Riviera. This 2017 cuvée, consisting of Cabernet Franc, Merlot, Syrah and Mourvèdre, will be followed by a white, Charming Vista, in early 2019.

Working with local charity Youth Interactive, in partnership with GO Campaign, we've enlisted young abstract art fan Jack Miles, mentored by celebrated local artist James-Paul Brown, to create the wine labels. Sample the wines at Belmond El Encanto, or visit the sun-dappled estate in the Santa Ynez Valley for a tasting.

“Step into La Cave and feel transported from the glittering Caribbean into an almost medieval ambience.”



HEAVEN IN A GLASS

Down Mexico way, at **Belmond Maroma Resort & Spa on the Riviera Maya**, we've launched a signature label in collaboration with Jesús Rivera, winemaker at the exciting El Cielo winery in Valle de Guadalupe. Our Sommelier, Aaron Alvarez, along with key members from the hotel, travelled to the vineyard in Baja California on a mission to unearth the perfect red, a top-of-the-range 2012 Cabernet Franc.

El Cielo, meaning "heaven", was also the source of our signature wine at Belmond Casa de Sierra Nevada (below). A blend of Tempranillo and Cabernet Sauvignon, with fresh plum, cherry and smoky notes, it's perfect for cosying up by the log fire in The Blue Bar, or settling on our lush patio in the heart of San Miguel de Allende.

Belmond Charleston Place, in South Carolina, has launched a Bucket List Wine Menu, offering eight extremely rare wines by the glass at its

award-winning Charleston Grill. For the ultimate indulgence, request a customised tasting menu pairing each rare wine with a dish - the 2015 Williams Selyem Pinot Noir slips down nicely with a delicious mushroom cavatelli, for example.

In New York City, 21's historic secret cellar (below right) takes us back to Prohibition when liquor was banned and drinking boites went underground. Discover why it's garnered 16 consecutive *Wine Spectator* Grand Awards: host a private event with a seven-course tasting menu complemented by hand-picked labels from the collection of 20,000, or invite your guests to discern their Shiraz from their Petite Sirah at an expert-led wine seminar. Keep an eye out for the return of the Winemaker's Dinner series in 2019.

Start your tasting at belmond.com/americanvintage



VINES DIVINE

- AMALFI COAST, ITALY -

Steer away from the Amalfi coastal crowds and head off the beaten track in a Piaggio Ape for a taste of timeless Italy.

The rural town of Tramonti, at the foot of the rugged Lattari Mountains, may be a short hop from the bustling Amalfi Coast yet it's a world away. In this leafy paradise, discover a family-run vineyard offering delicious home-cooked specialities accompanied by exceptional wines.

From Belmond Hotel Caruso, let us drive you to the secluded, hilly location in an Ape (above left) - the natty little three-wheeler that evolved from the Vespa scooter. Since its inception over 70 years ago, it has transformed from a practical mode of transport into a much-loved icon. Its name, pronounced Ah-pay, literally means "bee". But far from buzzing along, it proceeds

at a sedate, meandering pace, allowing you to soak up the rural vistas. Swathes of green forest, terraced lemon and olive groves, dairy farms and rocky river beds pass by before you reach the bucolic winery, Tenuta San Francesco.

You're welcomed with open arms by Gaetano Bove and his family. Join Gaetano, who tends sick animals when not tending vines, for a stroll through the picturesque vineyards. Stand beneath gnarly, prized specimens, several centuries old, that miraculously survived the Phylloxera epidemic. Tour the cellars where the magic happens, then sit down to an inviting farmhouse lunch (above right).

To find out more, visit belmond.com/hotelcaruso

#Amalfigram

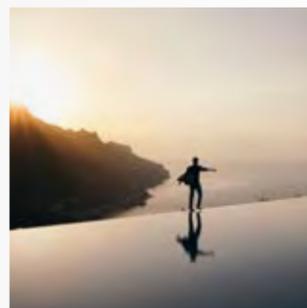
YOUR BELMOND GUIDE TO CREATING THE PERFECT INSTA-FEED

Aah, the Amalfi Coast! Nowhere has quite the same allure, particularly for influencers and photography fans. To help you capture the perfect shot – and make your friends insanely jealous – follow Belmond Hotel Caruso’s expert tips. Or even better, let us take you on a customised guided tour.

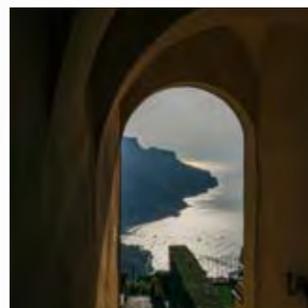
Seize the sunrise over our sublime infinity pool. Shoot the breathtaking coastal view in the dewy light. Stroll down to Atrani, breathing in the scent of lemon trees, and lose yourself

in tiny, steep alleyways where white houses contrast with the deep Mediterranean Sea. Follow a secret path to Amalfi and board a private boat to sail to undiscovered gems. Pause before Positano for an iconic shot, then hop off in Praiano for a photogenic cocktail on the beach. Finally, gather your strength to climb 385 steps into the heart of the village. In the main square claim your reward: a picture-perfect sunset.

Start shooting at belmond.com/amalfigram



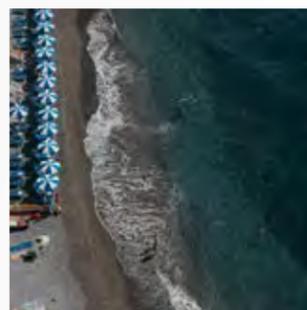
That sunrise magic by the infinity pool **#TheArtOfBelmond #Ravello**



Woke up like this – to the Amalfi Coast at our feet **#BelmondHotelCaruso**



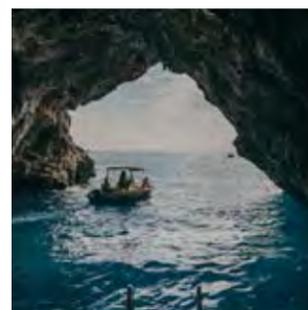
Dazzling colours, twinkling sea on the walk to Atrani **#AmalfiCoast**



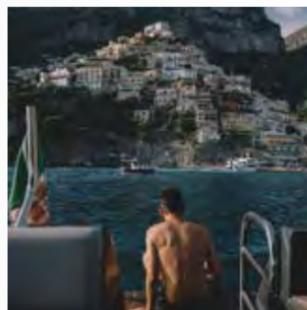
Made it all the way down! Time for pizza on the beach **#Atrani**



Greek island meets Southern Italian village. Welcome to **#Atrani #Italy**



“Nel blu dipinto di blu” ...can’t wait to jump in! **#GrottadiPandora**



Doing **#Positano** right – enjoying the view from our private boat **#Italia**



Aperitivo hour is the best of hours! **#AmalfiCoast**



Arrived at **#Praiano** main square. End of an unforgettable day!

BELMOND IN ITALY, SPAIN AND PORTUGAL

As well as intimate, focused tours such as #Amalfigram, opposite, we specialise in big, island-hopping adventures. Enjoy total flexibility with our Grand Tour: take seven days and spend them where and how you wish, staying at two or more of our Belmond hotels in Southern Europe. Add a journey aboard the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express for the ultimate indulgence.

www.belmond.com/grandeuropetour

Belmond Hotel Caruso AMALFI COAST

Piazza San Giovanni del Toro 2, 84010 Ravello, Italy

Belmond Villa San Michele FLORENCE

Via Doccia 4, 50014 Fiesole, Florence, Italy

Belmond Castello di Casole TUSCANY

Località Querceto, 53031 Casole d’Elsa, Siena, Italy

Belmond Hotel Splendido & Belmond Splendido Mare PORTOFINO

Salita Baratta 16 and Via Roma 1, 16034 Portofino, Italy

Belmond Grand Hotel Timeo TAORMINA

Via Teatro Greco 59, 98039 Taormina, Sicily, Italy

Belmond Villa Sant’Andrea TAORMINA MARE

Via Nazionale 137, 98039 Taormina Mare, Sicily, Italy

Belmond Hotel Cipriani VENICE

Giudecca 10, 30133 Venice, Italy

Belmond La Residencia MALLORCA

Son Canals s/n, 07179 Deià, Mallorca, Spain

Belmond Reid’s Palace MADEIRA

Estrada Monumental 139, 9000-098 Funchal, Madeira, Portugal

Venice Simplon-Orient-Express EUROPE

Shackleton House, 4 Battle Bridge Lane, London SE1 2HP, UK

© 2019. Published by Belmond Management Limited, Shackleton House, 4 Battle Bridge Lane, London SE1 2HP. Words and images in this publication may be reproduced only with prior written permission from Belmond.

Cover, showing Belmond Castello di Casole, and Italy, Spain and Portugal photography by Tyson Sadlo (unless otherwise stated).

“Belmond” is a registered trade mark.

BELMOND.COM



BELMOND

*Welcome to Belmond. Where mornings begin with a sunrise across Rio.
Where lunch is not just lunch but a one star moment beside
the Venetian lagoon. Where Nelson, our concierge, can get you anything,
anytime in Cape Town. This is your time.*

