

# TRAVEL

& INDULGENCE

## DESTINATION ASIA THE 10 BEST NEW HOTELS {P12}



Hong Kong's arts oasis {P7} | Okinawa's key to longevity {P8}

### DISCOVER TAHITI + THE MARQUESAS

VOYAGE 5 - DEPART 27 MAR 2018  
19 NIGHTS FROM \$9,199PP\* EX. SYD/MEL/BNE

VOYAGE 9 - DEPART 10 JUN 2018  
VOYAGE 15 - DEPART 30 SEPT 2018  
18 NIGHTS FROM \$8,999PP\* EX. SYD/MEL/BNE

#### SAVE 10% ON USUAL CABIN PRICE\*

Sailing aboard the "Aranui 5", to one of the world's most remote and beautiful regions. 13 nights cruising the spectacular Marquesas Islands + return economy class airfares, transfers, and pre/post cruise accommodation.

#### BOOK NOW - AND AVOID CANCELLATION FEES\*

BONUS: Chauffeur driven transfers to/from SYD/MEL/BNE airports.\*



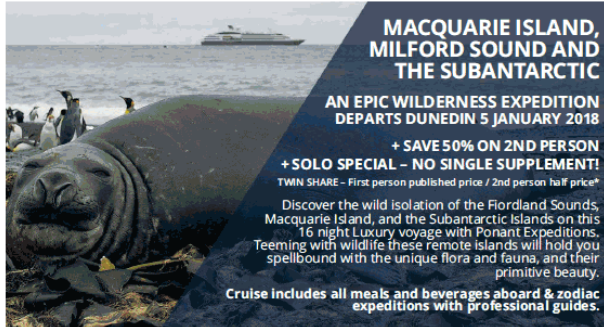
### MACQUARIE ISLAND, MILFORD SOUND AND THE SUBANTARCTIC

AN EPIC WILDERNESS EXPEDITION  
DEPARTS DUNEDIN 5 JANUARY 2018

+ SAVE 50% ON 2ND PERSON  
+ SOLO SPECIAL - NO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT!  
TWIN SHARE - First person published price / 2nd person half price\*

Discover the wild isolation of the Fiordland Sounds, Macquarie Island, and the Subantarctic Islands on this 16 night Luxury voyage with Ponant Expeditions. Teeming with wildlife these remote islands will hold you spellbound with the unique flora and fauna, and their primitive beauty.

Cruise includes all meals and beverages aboard & zodiac expeditions with professional guides.



DISCOVER MORE AT [ULTIMATECRUISING.COM.AU](http://ULTIMATECRUISING.COM.AU) OR CALL 1300 485 846 FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO MAKE A BOOKING!



Office open Monday to Friday from 9:30am to 5:30pm.  
\* Conditions Apply. Subject to availability at time of booking. Applies to new bookings only. Aranui price based on Ocean View Stateroom per person Twin Share Book your 2018 cruise now and cancel by 30 Oct 2017 to avoid cancellation fee. Luxury car transfers limited to 35 kilometres from SYD/MEL/BNE Airports. Ponant price based on Prestige Deck 6 Stateroom at \$17,114pp twin share and 2nd Person at 50% discount (excluding taxes).





# Style central

Asia's 10 best new hotels

CHRISTINE McCABE

**THE WAREHOUSE HOTEL, SINGAPORE:** From the team behind some of Singapore's smartest restaurants comes this 37-room hotel fashioned from a riverfront heritage godown (or warehouse) at groovy Robertson Quay. Cool, urban interiors by local firm Asylum and top notch "mod-sin" (modern Singapore) cuisine from leading chef Willin Low make this a stylish alternative for travellers seeking a friendly neighbourhood pad. The ethos is rigorously "locally made", from the tea, coffee and minibar inclusions to the staff uniforms and fleet of hotel bicycles. The fitout includes a loft-style suite with river views and rooftop swimming pool. More: [thewarehousehotel.com](http://thewarehousehotel.com).

**137 PILARS SUITES & RESIDENCES, BANGKOK:** With just 34 suites, the highest infinity pool in the Thai capital and an on-call London cab fitted with champagne bar, this luxury hotel in fashionable Thonglor has all five-star bases covered. Occupying floors 24-32 of a residential block, the suites offer great city views from large balconies, and each features a private wine cellar, generous marble bathroom, "maxi-bar" and the services of a butler. Dial up a personal shopper for a visit to the nearby Em-Quartier and Emporium retail mecca or pop into the 28th-floor day spa. Swedish chef Peter Marx gives traditional Thai a modern twist at 27th-floor Nimitr. More: [137pillarsbangkok.com](http://137pillarsbangkok.com).

**ALILA FORT BISHANGARH, RAJASTHAN:** The Alila group is unfazed by remote locales or challenging renovations. It took seven years to transform this classic Rajasthani warrior fort, sitting high on a hill one hour from Jaipur, into a stunning five-star hotel. The original building, with its 2m-thick walls and battlements, has been left intact and a new sympathetic structure built to house 59 elegant guestrooms and suites, all with far-reaching views. The full Rajput playlist is here — cigars and cognac in the turret, a spa treatment in the dungeon, high tea in the lounge and the cuisines of the Silk Road in the signature restaurant. More: [alilahotels.com](http://alilahotels.com).

**ANANTARA KALUTARA RESORT, SRI LANKA:** Tucked away on Sri Lanka's southwest coast, an hour from Galle



Fort, this family-friendly Anantara boasts an impressive pedigree, with the original resort designed more than two decades ago by legendary local architect Geoffrey Bawa. The project languished for years until one of his proteges picked it up. There's no mistaking Bawa's hand in the resort's spacious arrival hall and lobby; his pared-back "tropical modernism" has also influenced the 141 guestrooms, suites and pool villas, each with a private balcony or terrace to take advantage of the property's coastal, river and lagoon frontages. There's a large day spa, children's club, three restaurants and a resort library fashioned after Bawa's personal study and displaying many of his original sketches. More: [kalutara.anantara.com](http://kalutara.anantara.com).

**BAWAH ISLAND, INDONESIA:** Thirteen white-sand beaches, three sparkling lagoons and five untouched islands should be more than enough to lure guests for three hours by ferry, then sea plane, from Singapore to this newly opened eco-resort in the southern Indonesian Anambas. Other tempting drawcards are the food, produced from the island's garden, the 24 smart tented safari suites, 11 overwater bungalows and enveloping virgin rainforest. This is a marine conservation area, so resort

builders have taken a low-impact approach; no heavy machinery was used in construction and fishing, and pesticides are banned. More: [bawahisland.com](http://bawahisland.com).

**Soneva Jani, The Maldives, top; Bawah Island, Indonesia, above; The Warehouse Hotel, Singapore, top left; Alila Fort Bishangarh, Rajasthan, above left**



builders have taken a low-impact approach; no heavy machinery was used in construction and fishing, and pesticides are banned. More: [bawahisland.com](http://bawahisland.com).

**CAPE KUDU HOTEL, KOH YAO NOI, THAILAND:** Cape Kudu or Cape Cod? There's a touch of the latter, and a dash of the Bahamas, in the whitewashed timbers and pale blue and grey palette deployed in this chic, well-priced resort located on a small, unspoiled island in the middle of Phang Nga Bay half way between Phuket and Krabi. Far removed from Phuket's madding crowds, the resort features 55 guestrooms, including 11 pool villas and one premium suite decorated in contemporary coastal style. This is a great spot to kick back but if you like to keep busy there are ample water-based activities and plenty of classes, from batik printing to Thai boxing. More: [capekuduhotel.com](http://capekuduhotel.com).

**HOTELJEN BEIJING:** Blurring the line between work and play, the always-connected millennial traveller is driving an important sector of hotel development. Shangri-La's lifestyle Jen brand is a case in point. The newest hotel in this group, located in Beijing's China World Complex, comes with its own gastropub and brewery, giant gym and a 24-hour business-cum-leisure centre complete with cafe and work pods. Pick of the 450 work-friendly, loft-style guestrooms are the larger corner chambers with views of the Rem Koolhaas-designed CCTV head-quarters. More: [hoteljen.com](http://hoteljen.com).

**HOTEL STRIPES, KUALA LUMPUR, AUTOGRAPH COLLECTION:** Sister property to Kuala Lumpur's grand dame Majestic Hotel, the thoroughly modern Stripes opened earlier this year in lively downtown Jalan Kamunting with a stylish rooftop pool and bar and 184 smart guestrooms decorated with large format black and white retro photos of the 'hood and featuring gratis Wi-Fi and mini-bar. Nearby you'll find The Row, 22 shophouses dating from the 1940s retrofitted to house cafes, bars and galleries. The hotel's super-smart brasserie with its red brick arcades and vintage sputnik light fittings serves French classics, while the casual Snug is the perfect spot for coffee. More: [stripesl.com](http://stripesl.com).





**KERRY HOTEL, HONG KONG:** The first hotel to open on the Kowloon waterfront in two decades, this Andre Fu-designed "urban resort" features a big inventory of 546 guestrooms, more than 1000 pieces of contemporary Asian art and loads of places to eat, including the bustling harbourfront Dockyard with nine separate kiosks and

live entertainment on weekends. More than 60 per cent of guestrooms have views across the harbour to the Hong Kong skyline; the premier Red Sugar bar claims glittering after-dark views from its 270-degree wraparound terrace. More: [shangri-la.com](http://shangri-la.com).

**SONEVA JANI, THE MALDIVES:** Providing one of the most immersive experiences in The Maldives, this newest Soneva features 24 enormous overwater villas (and one island villa), each with a 13m pool, some with slides dropping directly from the top deck into the lagoon. Then there are alfresco dining terraces, glass flooring and an open-air bathroom accessible from the lagoon via a staircase, so guests are never more than a few steps from the water. Featuring weathered timbers and natural linen, the relaxed interiors have been put together by Soneva co-founder Eva Shivasani. The farthest-flung villas are connected to the main resort by a snaking jetty; if you're in a hurry for the cocktail hour, jump a bike or shuttleboat. More: [soneva.com](http://soneva.com).

**Cape Kudu Hotel, Koh Yao Noi, Thailand, above left; Hotel Stripes Kuala Lumpur, above; Hotel Jen Beijing, left**

## BALI HIGHS

- With a large beach club debuting later this year, Hotel Indigo Bali Seminyak Beach (pictured) has opened at the southern end of Mesari Beach with 270 guestrooms and 19 pool villas. Funky rooms, a fleet of restaurants and bars and large day spa make this a go-to pad for see-and-be-seen millennials. More: [hotelindigo.com/Bali](http://hotelindigo.com/Bali).
- Meantime, one of the island's best-loved luxury boltholes, the Four Seasons Resort Bali at Jimbaran Bay, has put the finishing touches to a two-year renovation believed to have cost more than \$20 million. All 147 villas, each with private pool, have been overhauled, almost half completely rebuilt; the Premier category includes larger bedrooms, a new living area and bigger pools. And while there's a more contemporary pared-back look, the romantic feel of a traditional Balinese village remains. More: [fourseasons.com](http://fourseasons.com).
- The Kayumanis Group, with properties at Jimbaran, Ubud and Nusa Dua, has expanded its tropical footprint with the addition of a fourth property on the island after rebranding Gangsa in Sanur. All pool villas at the newly named Kayumanis Sanur Private Villa & Spa are undergoing a makeover to bring the resort in line with its luxury stablemates. More: [kayumanis.com](http://kayumanis.com)

CHRISTINE McCABE



# LUXURY ANTARCTICA EXPEDITION



Celebrate 2018/19 Christmas & New Years  
**FREE FLIGHTS, TRANSFERS & HOTEL\***

Antarctica Fly/Cruise Package **18 nights** starting from  
 Departing 18 Dec '18 **\$22,600\***pp twin share

Includes:

- **FREE** return Economy flights from SYD/MEL/BNE to Buenos Aires, overseas transfers throughout, 2 nights pre cruise accommodation in Buenos Aires including breakfast and visit to Tierra del Fuego National Park including lunch
- Return Economy group flights from Buenos Aires to Ushuaia
- 16 night luxury expedition cruise onboard Le Soleal in an Oceanview Stateroom



Contact Travel the World | 1300 857 437 | [deals.traveltheworld.com.au/ponant](http://deals.traveltheworld.com.au/ponant)

\*Prices are per person twin share in Australian dollars and are correct as at 4 Sep 17. Prices are based on Deluxe Stateroom and is subject to availability, currency fluctuations and seasonal surcharges. Other cabins types available though package price will vary. Prices are capacity controlled and can change at any time. Once this category is sold out surcharges apply. Cruise taxes are subject to change at any time up until sailing date and may be charged on-board. Ponant reserves the right to apply a fuel surcharge at any time and can be charged after final payment. Pre cruise accommodation is based on PanAmericano Hotel or similar. Not included in cruise: laundry services, hair salon and spa treatments, personal expenses, onboard medical consultation and drug prescriptions and gratuities. Other conditions apply and will be advised at the time of booking. Lic No 2FA003774.