

TOP 50 ADVENTURES

Adventure means something different to everyone. It might be jumping out of an airplane, exploring the deep unknown by submarine in the Indian Ocean, or trekking through the Amazon. It could be getting lost in a new destination; finding those off-the-beaten-track gems that make a trip all the more memorable (and that certainly can't be found in any travel guides or on Google); joining a native tribe for an authentic home-cooked dinner and immersing yourself in another way of life; or seeing an elusive herd of animals, safe in the knowledge that your conservation contribution is making a difference in the world. You might favor journeys of the self and hike through the Himalayas, or perfect your downward-facing dog in a thermal cave in Italy. One thing's for certain — adventure changes our perceptions, pushes us out of our comfort zones and makes us feel alive. In the third annual installment of our top adventures, we've split these 50 top-notch trips into easily digestible sections with exclusive itineraries and experiences that will have you bragging to your friends for years to come.

by Samantha Coles

Your next adventure starts here.



SECRET LOCATION

Pencari Black specializes in curating custom luxury adventures with a twist: The company's sister operation, Pencari Training, is responsible for training the world's military and special forces, and from this expertise, Pencari Black was born. If you've ever had dreams of joining Delta Force or just want to do something completely different, the immersive experiences will fulfil even the most seasoned adventurer's desires. Each itinerary is entirely bespoke, but you can expect to plunge 28,000 ft through the sky over the Colorado desert at a speed of 120 mph from a military-grade aircraft (known as a HALO jump — a military-style, low-open parachute jump that gets troops on the ground with speed and stealth); locate a hostage and venture behind enemy lines decked out in the latest special commando forces clothing and equipment; or track your target through the African bush while keeping an eye out for the Big Five. From \$23,000 per person. Contact Dean Williams, managing director, concierge@pencariblack.com, +44 120 294 6202, pencariblack.com



HELI-BIKING

CANADA

Accessible only by air or boat, Nimmo Bay Resort is truly wild and remote. The thick green canopy of the Great Bear Rainforest towers over the chalet-style lodge, and a vast lake is directly in front — and there's a tumbling 5,000-ft waterfall just steps away. When the Murray family opened it in 1982, it was the world's first eco-lodge, and sustainability is still at the heart of this ruggedly beautiful place (and it's still owned and operated by the Murrays). As the resort is set in such a breathtaking wilderness, there is a veritable toy box of wondrous activities to be enjoyed, from a bonfire on the floating dock and kayaking in the clear waters to salmon fishing. The resort has a stellar heli-biking program: Soar up to forested alpine and remote mountain ridges and glaciers, then explore the outstanding landscape by fat bike. With legs suitably tired and camera memory filled up, stop off for a remote gourmet picnic.

Helicopter day trips from \$5,800 per day, Cabin from \$1,195 per night. Contact Fraser Murray, manager, heli@nimmobay.com, +18008374354, nimmobay.com



LIVING ON THE EDGE

OMAN

Escape the heat of Muscat and head to the fabled Green Mountain (also known as Al Jabal Al Akhdar, part of the Al Hajar mountain range). It's almost 9,800 ft high, and the undulating canyons and rock formations in the area make for astonishing views, but the best way to appreciate this unique landscape is by scaling the rock face. With the guidance of friendly experts (who'll also take those all-important Instagram shots for you), you'll rapel down sheer drop-offs and work your way along the cliff. Courses for beginners and intermediates let you go at your own pace and, if you're brave, you can zip line across the canyon. Back at Anantara Al Jabal Al Akhdar, visit the tranquil spa to get your heart rate back to normal.

 $Rock\ climbing\ from\ \$130\ per\ person,\ Three-bedroom\ Royal\ Mountain\ Villa\ from\ \$7,285\ per\ night.$ Contact Dagmar Symes, general manager, dsymes@anantara.com, +968 252 180 00, jabal-akhdar.anantara.com