

LUXURY WITHOUT COMPROMISE

Robb Report

The

Life,

OCEANS OF
SEAWORTHY
PURSUITS

Aquatic

JULY 2018



launch control

The Japanese firm **Seven Dreamers** (sevendreamers.com) has roots in aerospace, so it makes sense that its new carbon-fiber golf shafts (from \$1,200) are born from the same manufacturing processes it uses for its satellites. Ultrathin layers of carbon fabric are wrapped around a mandrel, which is put into a mold and then cured under intense pressure in an autoclave. This yields shafts without any surface unevenness, so no post-mold grinding is needed: Every shaft is exactly to specification. —MICHAEL CROLEY



fashion cycle

Following their first collaboration last year, Dior and the French BMX maker Bogarde have once again teamed up on a limited-edition bike. Priced at \$4,700, the new **Dior x Bogarde BMX** (dior.com) features plenty of Dior branding, calfskin details, and a steel frame finished with a gleaming metallic-gold PVD coating. Only 100 numbered examples of the bike will be made. —JOHN LYON



ride-sharing racers

Jaguar is now offering the **Race Taxi** (jaguar.de) experience—an opportunity to take a bucket-list lap at Germany's Nürburgring motorsports venue. For a price of roughly \$236, passengers will rocket around the renowned 13-mile Nordschleife circuit aboard a specially prepared F-Type SVR coupe or XJR575 sedan. The 30-minute session includes a safety briefing and post-lap video review. Dates run through mid-November. —NICK KURCZESKI

in the clear

Following the success of last year's sapphire-cased Double Tourbillon 30° Technique, **Greubel Forsey** (greubelforsey.com) is returning with another U.S. exclusive, a new variation of its Double Balancier (\$695,000). The sapphire case provides a highly three-dimensional view of the movement—which averages the rates of its two inclined balance wheels through a differential system—as does the alluring mirror-polished blue partial dial. —JAMES D. MALCOLMSON

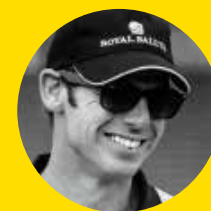
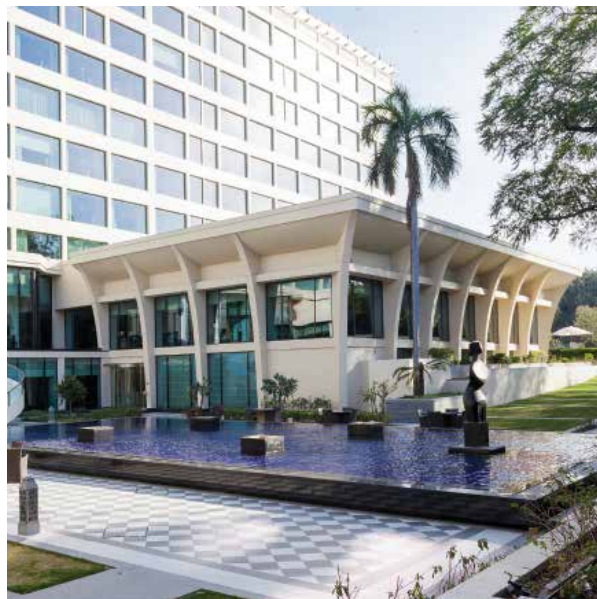


second look

Is there an expiration date on a good idea? Design thinks not. For their latest series—the Les Ondes ("waves") collection of chic taps, fixtures, and accessories for the luxury bath company **THG Paris** (thg-paris.com)—noted French designers Patrick Gilles and Dorothee Boissier went back to their very own catalog, drawing inspiration from a crystal lamp they created for the Baccarat Hotel in New York. The brilliantly faceted Les Ondes series (starting at \$2,000) brings an elegant but not overdone style to daily life. Shown here in brass, the collection is available in 40 THG Paris finishes. —ARIANNE NARDO

delhi done right

New Delhi's elite can breathe a sigh of relief—January marked the long-awaited reopening of the city's famed **Oberoi** hotel (oberoihotels.com), a beloved go-to for business, pleasure, and everything in between. The \$100 million renovation is all that Oberoi devotees had hoped for: Modern design and technology dress up expanded rooms and suites, while a contemporary Indian restaurant from London's Michelin-starred chef Alfred Prasad and a sexy rooftop bar bring new relevance to the social scene. Still, there's plenty of nostalgia to go around at Threesixty restaurant. Fondly dubbed the drawing room of the city, the legendary see-and-be-seen bar is brighter and airier, but as elegant as ever. —SARAH KHAN



Q&A: MALCOLM BORWICK

Third-generation polo champion Malcolm Borwick is the world polo ambassador for Royal Salute whisky, whose Royal Salute Coronation Cup has raised more than \$2 million for Prince Harry's charity Sentebale, aiding children in Lesotho and Botswana. We rode up alongside Borwick to talk about the sport of kings and two of its most notable players: Princes William and Harry. —RICHARD CARLETON HACKER

Where are the best players coming from?

Without a doubt, Argentina. Beginning around 1900, they had everything needed to create a polo dynasty, which was time, an equine culture, and flat land. Now, if you trace the Argentinean polo culture, it literally goes back to just two families. And in Argentina, if you're in a polo family, you play polo and that's all you play.

What horse breed makes the best polo pony?

For me, the perfect expression of an equine athlete is a Thoroughbred. The Argentine polo breed is basically seven-eighths Thoroughbred with a drop of Argentine Criollo genetics, which has a quieting-down influence and gives the horse more mental capacity.

You've played with both Prince William and Prince Harry. Which one is more aggressive?

Polo is often a reflection of your personality. Prince Harry is by nature very optimistic as a person and always pushing boundaries, always challenging people, and that's how he plays polo. The Duke of Cambridge, Prince William, is a defensive player—he's very controlled and plays really well in his role in the back. **R**