

LUXURY WITHOUT COMPROMISE

# Robb Report

## Arriving in Style

How to live well...  
without going overboard

PLUS

The supercar that's risen from the ashes  
Mr. Armani speaks out



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## ROBB RECOMMENDS...



## Nice Water Indeed

If the occasionally bone-rattling three-and-a-half-hour drive from Cape Town doesn't leave you completely breathless, your first glimpse of Lekkerwater Beach—when you spy cottages clinging to a hillside cloaked in fragrant fynbos, with an endless sweep of ocean unfurling below—will take care of the rest.

This scenic swath of South Africa's remote De Hoop Nature Reserve was favored by former president F. W. de Klerk as a weekend retreat. Today, it's reborn as a seven-room seaside hideaway by safari outfitter Natural Selection.

In keeping with the breezy beach-house spirit, rooms are spare but sumptuous, and meals are communal and delicious. But the focus, from every angle, is what lies beyond. The secluded setting and marine-protected coastline mean guests are outnumbered by dolphins and whales; in fact, De Hoop claims some of the best land-based whale watching in the world.

In this era of hyperbole, the lodge's name is refreshingly unassuming: As you sit on the deck of your chalet, watching southern right whales breach and spout, it might strike you that Lekkerwater, or "nice water" in Afrikaans, is an epic understatement.

**Sarah Khan**



The Indonesian archipelago is full of extraordinary wildlife interactions.

crew-to-guest ratio, sundeck, lounge and bar, and outdoor Jacuzzi.

The nine itineraries are equally impressive: Komodo National Park, with its 5,000 giant lizards and protected waters; the Raja Ampat archipelago, 27,000 square miles of land and sea in the Coral Triangle; and Ambon and the Spice Islands, where nutmeg plantations lie within view of a volcano. Just pick whichever takes your fancy. **Amy DiLuna**

Aqua Blu bridge, deck suite.



## OTHER INTIMATE ITINERARIES

The *Coral Geographer*, a 120-passenger ship from Australia-based **Coral Expeditions**, takes its first trip—from Singapore across the Indian Ocean to the Seychelles—in January 2021. A special overnight excursion to Sri Lanka includes a dusk safari at Yala National Park.

By 2020, the very luxe **Ponant Explorers**

fleet will have added six ships that carry a max of 184 passengers each in 92 cabins. One standout feature, in addition to Hermès toiletries and a 24-hour butler: a lounge with a small bar with windows below the waterline, so you can scuba while staying bone-dry. The ships, all named for French explorers, will

travel to the Bissagos Islands, the Maldives, Papua New Guinea and other locales polar and tropical alike.

Up to 12 guests can take **Offshore Outpost's** *Pacific Provider* to the Sea of Cortez or Alaska, where, if you catch a salmon, they'll prepare it for you on a grill. Life doesn't get much

fresher than that.

The *Harmony G* from **Variety Cruises** is a megayacht with 21 cabins to whisk away a max of 44 guests. Choose among six itineraries: one to Egypt, Jordan, Israel and the Red Sea, or five to Greece, because are you even living if you haven't seen the sun set over the Acropolis? **A.D.**