

Harper's BAZAR

January 2012

A woman with blonde hair, wearing a green jacket, white shirt, and white breeches, is riding a brown horse. The horse is in motion, galloping through a savanna landscape with dry grass and scattered trees. In the background, there are rolling hills and mountains under a blue sky with light clouds. The overall scene is bright and natural.

Travel
HOT 100

BAZAAR

VILLAS

World party.

Why not invite a select few of your favourite people to one of the most beautiful places on Earth? Take over one of these glamorous private idylls, from Bali to Mount Kenya



Molori Clifton

1 BEST FOR URBAN BEACH-LOVERS Molori Clifton

SOUTH AFRICA

NEW

Molori means 'to dream' in Tswana. When the company launched its private safari lodge in the Madikwe Game Reserve a few years back, it flew in the face of the prevailing low-key trend with its private cinema, planetarium, spa, library, grand piano and infinity pools for each suite. Now the group has launched South Africa's finest new pair of city villas, Molori Clifton in Cape Town. Minutes from the immaculate white sands of Clifton Beach, it's a dream for the interiors- or technology-obsessed. The bedrooms have views of mountains and sea; the walls are floor-to-ceiling retractable glass doors; and the decks are wraparound with inviting infinity pools. There's also a steam room, Jacuzzi, spa, chauffeured Bentley and full complement of staff, from private chef and butler to 24-hour concierge. Here, pampering comes as standard: your clean laundry is even tissue-wrapped before it's placed in your room. *Three nights, from £2,850 a person B&B, including spa and gym access, with Seasons (01244 202085; www.seasons.co.uk).*

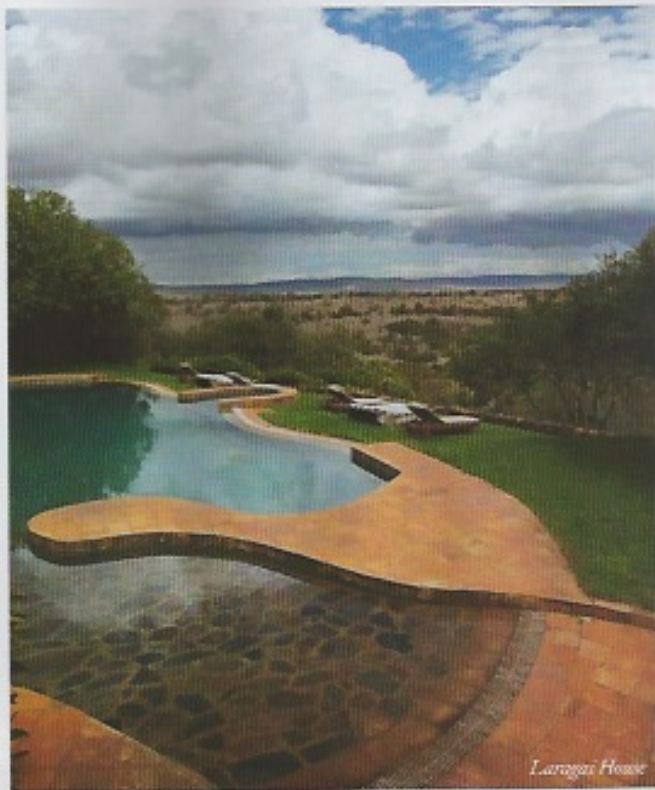
4 BEST SAFARI LODGE

Laragai House

KENYA

For Mount Kenya safaris with total privacy, the most extravagant private house for rent is Laragai on Borana Ranch, a private 35,000-acre estate in the wild, rugged bush of Laikipia, just 16 miles north of the Equator. Laragai has panoramic vistas over the Samangua Valley and the Lewa Plains to the Ngare Ndare Forest and Mount Kenya beyond, and from the pool you can observe passing herds of elephants and prides of lions. With welcoming staff, and furnished in a rustic-homestead style with an array of antiques, Laragai is perfect for creating a modern version of the private house parties of old. Grand and comfortable but unpretentious and informal, this has been the home of the Dyer family for three generations. Food is a huge focus: fresh and locally sourced, with many ingredients coming from the farm and kitchen garden. By day, guests can enjoy game drives, guided walks, horse-riding and lavish picnics. By night, the vast living room is perfect for dancing once the carpets are rolled back, or basking in the glow of a roaring fire. Only four hours from Nairobi by car, it is a great launch pad from which to discover the extraordinary variety of Kenya.

From about £2,210 a night full board for six people, and from about £355 an adult and £190 a child thereafter (sleeps 16), with the Safari and Conservation Company (+254 20 211 5453; www.thesafariandconservationcompany.com).



Laragai House

5 BEST INVESTMENT PLAN

Holiday homes

SRI LANKA

Sri Lanka's idyllic palm-fringed beaches and misty tea hills make it a beautiful location for a second home.

Sri Lanka Real Estate (www.lankarealestate.com) has a selection of villas.



Beach heaven in Sri Lanka

6 BEST FOR GROWN-UP GLAMOUR

OS Private Travel

WORLDWIDE

The venerable Oxford Ski Company has launched a new summery sister, OS Private Travel, with a handpicked collection of luxury villas and yachts, private islands and chalets, each with its own personal travel consultant (www.osprivate.com).

www.harpersbazaar.co.uk



7 BEST FOR DESIGN FETISHISTS

Jiva Puri

BALI

The owner of Jiva Puri, an Indian who has loved Bali for two decades, spent five years searching for the perfect plot for his home. He settled on two acres that ended in a small cliff, hovering over a black-sand beach backed with paddy fields. His dream was to build an architectural piece of art. The result is Jiva Puri, a modern update of the Balinese design precepts of organised living spaces around a courtyard, and open views of lush vegetation and the blue sea. Each of the five bedroom pavilions has a private outdoor space; a wraparound dining room, library and gym overlook a beautiful black-hued temple set on rocks in the sea. Add a pool, an ex-Hyatt manager and chef, and proximity to Ubud and Seminyak for day-tripping, and you have a ready-made Bali heaven for design freaks.

Jiva Puri (www.jivapuri.com), from about £3,145 a room a night (minimum three-night stay).



Jiva Puri