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Travelnews

Edited by Alicia Dereney



Discover the Maldives at the Baros resort

★ PARK LIFE

Overlooking a wild curve of beach in the heart of a protected park, the new luxury Martinhal resort near Sagres on the Western Algarve certainly has the 'wow' factor. Its super-cool design (think Conran) is still family-friendly, and you can choose to stay in the romantic boutique hotel or in a selection of houses and villas in the grounds. Dine at O Terraco restaurant, be pampered at Finisterra Spa, and venture out for mountain biking or to laze on gorgeous beaches nearby. From €139 a night for a terrace room, based on two sharing, with breakfast. Monarch fly to Faro. martinhal.com, monarch.co.uk

★ FIT FOR A KING

Cementing its reputation as the place to stay in London, the Mandarin Oriental Hyde Park has launched its new Royal Suite. The three-bedroom suite includes a living room, dining room and private kitchen, all finished to exquisite standards. Of particular note are the original artworks supplied by the Halcyon Gallery, which are regularly updated, and the bespoke double-tiered, rock crystal chandelier in the dining room. We're most impressed by the mirror on the master bedroom ceiling, however, artfully tilted to reflect views of leafy Hyde Park. Rates from £11,500 per night. mandarinoriental.com

★ LOUNGE ABOUT

Relaxation with a cultural twist – that's the essence of the new Maldivian Lounge at the luxurious Baros Maldives resort. When you want to

take a break from the beach and the shimmering lagoon waters, you can step into the Lounge, immerse yourself in the Maldives' history and get a feel for the soul of the coral island nation. On display are local artefacts and furniture, photographs of the Maldives predating the start of tourism and maps of the islands. Rates at Baros Maldives start at £374 per night, including breakfast, for a Deluxe Villa. baros.com

★ GOING LOCAL

Get away from the traditional coastal destinations of Mexico, and explore the interior from the Rosewood San Miguel de Allende, which opens in January. With only 67 rooms and suites, the hotel promises the height of resort luxury, while retaining a sense of local colour inspired by the region's architecture and culture. While the five restaurants, manicured gardens and Sense spa tempt you to remain in the resort, hiking and horseback riding offer the chance to see rural Mexico. In the mountains north of the capital, San Miguel de Allende is one of the country's oldest towns. Rates start at £189 for two, with breakfast and a 25 per cent spa discount. rosewoodhotels.com

Rosewood San Miguel de Allende



The Star of India...



The Star of India on the Old Brompton Road is owned and managed by celebrity chef Reza Mahammad and his younger brother Azam. Opened in the 1950's by their late father Shaikh Mahmud Shah

The star of india is open daily for lunch and dinner and has three private dining rooms for larger bookings that can seat 10, 12 and 30 guests.

The star of india undertakes private, corporate and wedding catering.

Opening hours:

Lunch 12pm – 2.45pm Daily
Dinner 6pm – 11.45pm Monday - Saturday
(Sunday) 6pm – 11.15pm Sunday

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