

CANADA
E

OCTOBER 2018

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LOVE
YOUR JOB

Why you should
treat your career
like a relationship

ELLE'S TOP BUYS

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PERFECT
PAIR OF
FALL BOOTS
+
THE
BEST NEW
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Jennifer Lawrence

ON HOW SHE'S FINALLY READY TO TAKE A BREAK



ELLE lifestyle

A PurePod in Kahurangi,
New Zealand

SMALL WONDERS

←→
We're constantly being told to "live large" or "think big"—but right now, we're all about downsizing. As these perfect tiny hotels, destinations and experiences prove, good things come in very small packages.

TEXT: PATRICIA KAROUNOS, CHARA RICKARD & CARL WHITWELL





The bucolic setting of Deplar Farm (left) and the almost invisible Sacramento Landscape Hotel (below)



Marlborough lodge and grounds (left) and a suite bed at Ignacia Guest House (right)



TRAVEL TIP

"Smaller airports tend to have lower fees, so they can be appealing to travellers looking to save money," says Barry Choi, travel expert. "Many budget airlines in Europe, Asia and now Canada are starting to offer more routes from these smaller destinations." Think John C. Munro airport in Hamilton instead of YYZ or Abbotsford International versus Vancouver. "Keep in mind that they may be farther away from the city you plan to visit, so you'll need to factor in time and transportation costs," adds Choi.

STAY

Staying at a big, buzzy luxury hotel has its pros—we could write a novel about all the people-watching we've done in lobby bars. But sometimes all those rooms, all those suitcases and all those bodies squeezed in with you in the elevator on your way up to your 33rd-floor room can make you feel like just another face in the revolving door of guests. Meet the new generation of boutique hotels: small, intimate spots with only a handful of suites and infinite thoughtful extras to make you feel like you very well could be the only person there...or even on the planet.



FOR A DESTINATION THAT MAKES YOU FEEL LIKE YOU'RE IN AN EPISODE OF GAME OF THRONES...

We can't promise you a Jan Snow run-in at Deplar Farm, but the stunning scenery at this remote luxury lodge, opened in 2016 in the Fjöt Valley in northern Iceland, will make you forget how long it's been since there was a new *GOI* episode. Channel your inner Stark—but with chicer outerwear—with a number of outdoor-adventure activities (Heli-skiing! Whole-watching!), or opt to never leave the fireside in your suite. [There are just 13 on the property, all with major hygge vibes—think textured walls and Moroccan wools.] A winter trip to

northern Iceland may sound daunting, but braving the cold is well worth the thrill of the outdoor geothermal pool, which gives you a front-row seat to the northern lights.

FOR AN ESCAPE FROM THE NON-STOP NEWS CYCLE...

At Tongabezi Lodge in southern Zambia—where Harry and Meghan are rumoured to have holidayed—the only Wi-Fi is in the main house, which is just fine because you'll never be on your phone anyway. Best bet: Stay in the property's secluded tree house. Reachable only via a hidden path, the open-plan suite (one of only nine villas on the property) features a king-size bed, a private deck and an open-air claw-foot tub, all perched among the branches of three ebony trees. The front of the room is entirely open, making it feel as if it blends into its surroundings—without sacrificing any of the luxury.



FOR A WINE TASTING THAT WOULD IMPRESS EVEN OLIVIA POPE...

Let's start with the location: The dozen or so luxe eco-friendly cabins that make up the Sacramento Landscape Hotel are dotted throughout 101

PHOTOGRAPHS BY: LUCIANO PACHEZ (TONGABEZI LODGE); CITY SCAPES (SACRAMENTO LANDSCAPE HOTEL); JESSICA MULLA (IGNACIA GUEST HOUSE)

hectares of land (including vineyards) in southeast Uruguay (about 45 minutes from hot spot Punta del Este). Inside, they are minimalist chic—think low platform beds, cowhide rugs and leather chairs. Meanwhile, the front exterior walls are covered with one-way mirrors, creating the illusion that the cabins disappear into their bucolic setting. Travel the terrain in an electric buggy, catch some R & R by a private pool, indulge at the farm-to-table restaurant or just sip wine on a hilltop terrace—you can do it all at the sustainable resort, which opens this fall.



FOR GOSSIP GIRL TYPES WHO WANT A BREAK FROM THE CITY...

GrayBarns, an upscale spot on the meandering Silvermine River in Connecticut, is idyllic year-round but especially in fall. (Imagine an *IRL* Stars Hollow but with way more privacy and no meddling

Taylor Dooses.) The bougie inn started life as a textile factory before thriving as a hotel in the '50s and '60s, playing host to A-listers like Elizabeth Taylor and Lauren Bacall. The classic-style property (again, very Lorelai Gilmore) reopened last year, boasting just six king suites, the restored original post-and-beam structure and a rustic-themed resto called Tavern (whose house-made pasta is calling your name). And GrayBarns keeps growing: Its opening-soon country store, Mercantile, will let you take the inn's old-money vibes back home.

FOR THE FOODIE WHO PLANS VACATIONS AROUND HER TASTE BUDS...

Almost nine million people live in Mexico City proper, but you wouldn't know it once you're inside the verdant grounds of Ignacia Guest House. The chilled-out B & B—a once crumbling mansion that was renovated into five ultra-modern suites last year—is the ideal place to rest your Nikes after a day spent touring the Mexican capital's never-ending roster of architectural and design wonders and foodie destinations. Also key: It's located in Colonia Roma, the city's vibrant gastronomic centre. Still hungry? Cooking lessons are offered by the same couple who make your complimentary breakfast from scratch daily, which you should definitely eat in the courtyard under the 70-year-old orange trees.



FOR INDULGING YOUR INNER HEIRESS...

Grab your tiara and head to Marlborough Lodge, a luxe 10-suite property in sprawling wine country outside Blenheim, New Zealand. Originally a Victorian convent built in 1901, the newly renovated lodge is set on six hectares of gardens and (oh, yes) vineyards. [We recommend partaking in the private wine tastings.] Stay in the Kingfisher Suite—it was originally a nun's chapel and still features the original arched windows, vaulted ceiling and stained-glass windows but with a contemporary and minimalist interior. >

