

DEPARTURES

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BLACKBOOK

WHERE TO GO NEXT **TRAVEL** WHAT TO KNOW NOW

A heated swimming pool and sauna are among the offerings at Domaine de la Baume's all-seasons spa.

THE AGENDA

BY MELISSA BIGGS BRADLEY

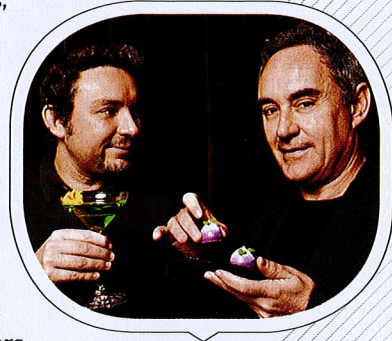
PERFECT IN PROVENCE



For proof that good things come in threes, look no further than **Domaine de la Baume**, the third Provence resort from Jocelyne Sibuet, celebrated interior designer turned luxury hotelier. This 18th-century bastide was once the ►

home of the artist Bernard Buffet and occupies 99 acres of olive groves near the central village of Tourtour (rooms, from \$570; *Tourtour, Var*; 33-4/57-74-74-74; domaine-delabaume.com). Chef François Martin, a veteran of the country's best kitchens, cooks straight from the vegetable garden and the daily market. The outdoor massages are given within earshot of a waterfall, and one of the old homes on the property has been transformed into a spa.

● A menu of Japanese Peruvian fusion could be a recipe for disaster, but the owners of Barcelona's **Pakta** (*Avgda. del Paral·lel*; [reservations through pakta.es](http://reservations.through.pakta.es)) include El Bulli founders Albert and Ferran Adrià. The restaurant showcases chefs Kyoko Li and Jorge Muñoz, each working in his native cuisine to create a 35-dish menu for the 32-seat dining room. Expect everything from traditional nigiri sushi to *tiradito* (a seafood carpaccio) and ceviche. The brothers Adrià show no signs of slowing down—their multilevel Mexican concept Yaguarcan will open in the Raval neighborhood this summer.



Albert and Ferran Adrià continue to expand their Barcelona restaurant empire.



A view of the Puglian countryside from one of Borgo Egnazia's pools

● Puglia, Italy, with its rugged beauty and undeveloped coastline, is poised to be the next Tuscany. Borgo Egnazia (rooms, from \$285; *Savelletri di Fasano, Brindisi*; 39-080/225-5000; borgoegnazia.com) sets the regional standard for luxury accommodations with its ocean-view villas, which come with multiple balconies, roof terraces, lush gardens and private pools. And now its owners have opened **San Domenico a Mare**, a four-room villa (from \$2,590; *Savelletri di Fasano, Brindisi*; 39-080/482-7769; masseriasandomenico.com) on the Adriatic, which can be rented in its entirety or by individual room. Golf at the nearby course should be followed by sunset drinks in the sand.

● Travelers searching for a luxurious route into Burma should book passage on the **Orcaella** (from \$5,040 a person for seven nights; 800-237-1236; orient-express.com), a state-of-the-art river cruiser from Orient-Express that makes its maiden voyage in July. The 25 cabins on this intimate vessel, named after dolphins that inhabit the country's Irrawaddy River, all feature balconies and floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors. The boat allows passengers to experience rarely visited villages and countryside, offering a unique window on Asia's destination du jour.



The Orcaella will sail Burma's famous Irrawaddy River, docking in remote villages.



Paris's Prince de Galles hotel is steps from the Champs-Élysées.

● Paris has a brand-new pair of "baby grand" hotels, both reimagined by famed architect Pierre-Yves Rochon. At the **Prince de Galles** (rooms, from \$1,000; 33 Av. George V; 33-1/53-23-77-77; princdegallesparis.com), reopening in May on Avenue George V, the Art Deco-style building now features contemporary touches like sleek marble floors and dark ebony wood in its apartment-style rooms and suites. The **Grand Hôtel du Palais Royal** (rooms, from \$840; 4 Rue de Valois; 33-1/42-96-15-35; grandhoteldu-palaisroyal.com) underwent a year-plus renovation in its transformation from a three-star to a five-star hotel. The 68 refreshed rooms offer views of the Louvre, the Palais Royal courtyard and the Tuileries. ♦

Bradley is the founder and CEO of the luxury travel outfitter Indagare. For more information, go to indagare.com.