



CHECK-IN
HOTELS

Sip cocktails Prohibition-style in a reinvented New York hat factory, overlooking the Grand Canal in Venice or poolside in Langkawi.

A REFINED ART

THE GRITTI PALACE

After a \$61m facelift, grand dame Gritti Palace has opened her newly renovated doors. The Palace's original charms circa 1525 have survived the rejuvenation, which has seen the 82 rooms and suites swathed in rich fabrics by Lorenzo Rubelli, with Murano glass chandeliers, parquet floors and antique furnishings adding to the historic charm. Bar Longhi's Grand Canal terrace is a hotly contested perch for lovers of espresso and aperitifs alike. From €425 (\$601). Campo Santa Maria del Giglio, Venice, Italy. +39 (041) 794 611. thegrittipalace.com



WHERE I STAY

ANNE SULLIVAN
MANAGING DIRECTOR
(AUSTRALIA) GEORG JENSEN



MAYA UBUD RESORT & SPA, BALI
"With a room overlooking rice paddies and a fast-flowing river, morning yoga to the sound of croaking frogs and a smiling personalised greeting, there is no place quite like Maya Ubud. The truly breathtaking moment happens as you wander through the thatched villas to the river lookout and the discreet lift that takes you poolside, riverside and spa-side. Once you've been handed a cooling drink beside the infinity pool, you'll never want to leave." From \$US237 (\$261). Jalan Gunung Sari Peliatan, Ubud, Bali, Indonesia. +62 (361) 977 888. mayaubud.com

For more Bali accommodation, see page 32



THE DATAI LANGKAWI

With white sands, timber beach villas and more privacy than you can poke a sustainable bamboo stick at, The Datai Saujani Resort is an embodiment of the dream getaway. Its 14 new beach villas are fitted out in rattan, wood and stone, with raked timber ceilings and pared-back furnishings, featuring open-air spaces and views of the Andaman Sea. Need some space between bed and sea? There are also 110 assorted deluxe rooms, suites and inland villas. From MYR1868 (\$640) Jalan Teluk Datai, Pulau Langkawi, Kedah Darul Aman, Malaysia. +60 (4) 9500 500. dataihotels.com



REFINERY HOTEL

The jam-packed New York City hotel market has squeezed in a new player, the boutique Refinery Hotel. Suites remind guests of the building's former life as a hat factory with touches such as side tables resembling factory carts and sewing machines. Winnie's Lobby Bar continues the theme with Prohibition-era cocktails in stemmed teacups. The Rooftop Bar's main pull is the NYC skyline, but the salvaged-wood interior, retractable glass roof and wine list aren't bad, either. From \$US269 (\$296). 63 West 38th Street, New York, USA. +1 (646) 664 0310. refineryhotelnewyork.com

COMPILED BY MICHAELA WILLIAMS

ASK THE CONCIERGE



ANIK LECLERC
HÔTEL LE GERMAIN
MONTRÉAL

- ❖ **When friends are in town** *I take them for a drink* at Pullman, on the corner of Park Avenue and Sherbrooke Street. It is an urban wine bar that serves great tapas. The wine selection is exhaustive.
- ❖ **The restaurant that best shows off Montreal is** a very difficult choice. Small, eclectic restaurants that offer feel-good food in a relaxed atmosphere are popular. One that stands out is Au Pied de Cochon, which specialises in comforting, very heavy French-Canadian food and boasts a separate menu just for its foie gras. You have to be famished to finish three courses!
- ❖ **For designer fashion** *I steer guests* towards Mountain Street, where you will find Ogilvy, Holt Renfrew, Marie Saint Pierre and other high-end designer clothing boutiques.
- ❖ **For the perfect gift or memento** I'd shop in the Plateau-Mont-Royal area, because of its unique, arty boutiques. The three streets that are a must to stroll on are Saint-Denis, Mont-Royal and Laurier, for both classic gifts and hip pieces.
- ❖ **Couples wanting a romantic dinner should consider** Toqué, which bases its

menu around local produce, or the candle-lit Europe. They are in high demand, so book ahead.

- ❖ **To see great art** I'd head to the western side of Sherbrooke Street for original art works and the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts; or check out Old Montreal for its galleries and museums.
- ❖ **The best markets can be found at** the Jean-Talon Market in Little Italy for fresh produce from local farmers, or Atwater Market, in the city's south-west section, to pick up bunches of flowers and pastries.
- ❖ **Sights that are overrated include** the Underground City, definitely. Although great to get around when it rains, it is simply a series of tunnels that lead you from mall to mall.
- ❖ **Montreal's best-kept secret is** our restaurant industry. While our smoked-meat bagels and *poutine* (fries with gravy and cheese) are local favourites, visitors initially don't realise how diversified and rich our food culture is.
- ❖ **If I were a visitor with a free day** I would wander through the underground Montreal Museum of Archaeology and History, Pointe-à-Callière, and take in Montreal's French history.

Au Pied de Cochon boasts a separate menu for its foie gras