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**Life and Death on the Third Shift** p36



# WHERE TO GO IN 2018

These 22 magnetic destinations are getting a boost this year thanks to inventive new hotels, restaurants, and cultural institutions. And since when you go matters almost as much as where, this section is arranged by the best time to visit each place—according to pricing data gathered by Google and the advice of local travel agents. Whatever you do, just don't stay home.

*Photograph by Gabriela Herman*

# P U R S U I T S

At the Luxury Wadi Rum resort in Jordan, guests sleep under the stars in semi-transparent domes

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## When to go:

Jan. Feb. Mar. Apr. May Jun. Jul. Aug. Sep. Oct. Nov. Dec.

# ST. KITTS

Far away has never been closer

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St. Kitts has pulled off a beach-escape hat trick: It feels untouched while being both comfortable and convenient. A quarter of it is preserved as American oceanic rainforest, perfect for hiking through pristine wilderness, but the island also offers the infinity pools and beachfront cafes travelers hope for in a luxe vacation. After surviving last year's hurricanes unscathed, the destination got a considerable injection of glitz when the 126-room Park Hyatt opened in November. The first five-star beach resort on St. Kitts, it's on a secluded white-sand cove near the island's southern tip; suites with private pools overlook the Caribbean Sea and the neighboring island of Nevis, while the three-bedroom presidential villa has a private chef and dedicated fitness area. The resort anchors Christophe Harbour, a new 2,500-acre luxury development and superyacht marina with boutiques that will give guests the added benefit of high-end shopping. In terms of convenience, Delta has begun offering nonstop connections from Atlanta and New York, making St. Kitts more accessible than many of its Caribbean peers.



**The table to book:** Down the road from the Louvre is one of Abu Dhabi's best beachside lunches: Sontaya at the St. Regis Saadiyat Island Resort. Sit on the terrace and watch the waves roll in while snacking on papaya salad and red duck curry.

# ABU DHABI

The next art hub

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If Dubai comes off as the Las Vegas of the Middle East, Abu Dhabi is making a play to be its Paris. The emirate's new crown jewel is the billion-dollar Louvre Abu Dhabi where, beneath a latticed steel dome by Pritzker Prize-winner Jean Nouvel, you'll find 7th century Qurans, 20th century Picassos, and Leonardo da Vinci's *Salvator Mundi*—yes, the one that recently sold for \$450 million. Other major institutions will join it in coming years, including Frank Gehry's Guggenheim Abu Dhabi and the Performing Arts Centre, by the late Zaha Hadid. But don't wait to visit: A growing number of luxury cruise ships are pulling into port, and for families there will soon be the \$1 billion Warner Bros. World theme park. Reserve a room at Ian Schrager's much-anticipated 244-room Edition, coming soon to the Al Bateen waterfront.

# See the classics, minus the crowds



Watching the great migration in the Serengeti is such a popular bucket-list trip that the region can feel as saturated with binocular toters as it is with thundering wildebeest. Head to **Southern Tanzania's** Selous and Ruaha game reserves, and instead of other safari Jeeps, you'll find the country's largest giraffe population and one-tenth of Africa's lions. Stay with African trailblazer Asilia, which recently unveiled two posh camps, Roho ya Selous (left) and Jabali Ridge. Perpetually mobbed **Florence** is confronting overtourism at its most popular museums with seasonal pricing, early-bird tickets, and a website that estimates waiting times. Prioritize the Vasari Corridor, a secret passage the Medicis used to get from their Uffizi Gallery offices to the Pitti Palace. It opens to the public in 2018 after a two-year renovation. Peak season for both destinations winds down in November—a great time for minimized crowds and maximized value.



The view from a private plunge pool at the Park Hyatt St. Kitts