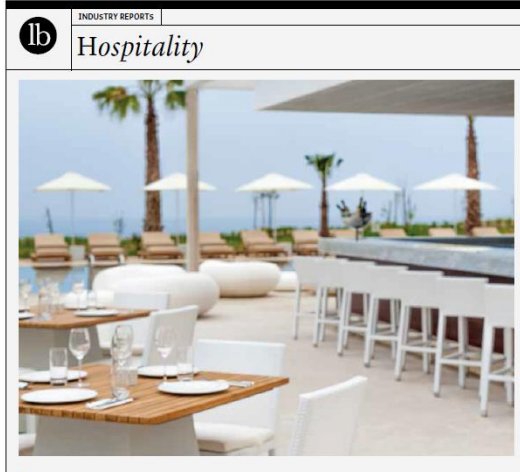


## luxury briefing

Interview with Rio Tinto Diamonds *Robbi Brown* introduces summer collection IWC Schaffhausen and Santoni collaboration *Noukoo* opens in Dubai Mulberry's former creative director launches accessories line *TOM FORD* to be stocked on *Net-A-Porter* and *Mr Porter* The first Aston Martin powerboat *Plus*; Q&A with *Head of Design at Boodles*



### Hyatt Place Taghazout Bay launches

Hyatt Hotels & Resorts has announced the opening of Hyatt Place Taghazout Bay, the first Hyatt Place hotel to open in Africa. The opening of the 121-room hotel, located ten miles north of the Moroccan coastal town of Agadir, marks a significant milestone for the Hyatt Place brand as it continues to expand outside the United States. Hyatt Place Taghazout Bay is part of Morocco's new sustainable and luxury development Taghazout Bay Resort, which is set in the peaceful foothills of the Atlas Mountains and overlooks the stunning Atlantic coastline. The resort is located only 40 minutes from Agadir International Airport, and a range of activities will be offered throughout the year at the on-site surf camp, tennis club and golf academy at the beautiful new 18-hole golf course designed by architect Kyle Phillips, as well as hang-gliding, hiking and mountain biking. "Bringing a brand into a new market is always exciting, but in particular in Africa where we are planning

on doubling the number of our properties on the continent over the next three years, adding four further properties to our existing four hotels," said Peter Falken, group president for Europe, Middle East, Africa and Southeast Asia, Hyatt. "We look forward to welcoming guests to Hyatt Place Taghazout Bay, where they will experience the authentic hospitality and personal service for which the Hyatt Place brand is known." Over the past 18 months, the brand has welcomed Hyatt Place Amman/Amman Airport and Hyatt Place Pune/Hinjewadi to its portfolio, and the London-based Hyatt Place Heathrow/T Hayes is set to open later this year.

**Luxury river cruise with the Strand Hotel** — The Strand Hotel, Yangon, has announced the launch of the Strand Cruise early next year. Named after its sister property, the cruise will have 27 cabin suites, a spacious pool deck, sun deck for a frecco-dining, and a wellness centre, retrology station

and beauty parlour. It will moor in exclusive locations along route, right by Old Bagan itself, as well as at the foot of one of the most ancient Buddhist monasteries at Sagging Hill when in Mandalay. These locations deliver outstanding scenery and make for memorable evenings on board ship as well as ashore. The Strand Cruise will commence its regular schedule of three- and four-night sailings between Bagan and Mandalay in early January 2016.

**New opening, D-Resort Sibenhik** — New and ultra chic, D-Resort Sibenhik is situated in one of the most charming historical towns on the Adriatic coast that has long been a popular destination for locals but little known outside the country. Set in the Mandralia Marina, D-Resort Sibenhik opened its doors in July. For those looking to experience the beauty of Croatia, D-Resort Sibenhik offers an incredibly high end, elegant destination - a vibrant mix of the enchanting old world with the sleek

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## INDUSTRY REPORTS Hospitality

## INDUSTRY REPORTS

modern style of the new. The 43 rooms, six suites and three Exclusive Villas are smart and elegantly dressed, decorated with minimalist Italian furnishings, two spacious en suite bedrooms, living and dining room, private terrace with dining table, and sunbeds. Lesser known than Dubrovnik and Split, Sibenhik is one of Croatia's oldest historical towns. Little quaint streets lead to attractive squares where modern art windows blend with the majestic and stylish architecture of the vambled centuries. Sibenhik is some to west of Croatia's spectacular Dalmatian Waterfalls, beautiful lakes with excellent fishing and the town's cathedral, dating back to 144, which still remains one of the marvels of the Dalmatian Coast today.

**Seabourn unveils new cruise itineraries** — Seabourn has announced an exciting schedule of cruises for its autumn 2016 and winter 2017 seasons. The programme offers 18 unique itineraries and 104 departures of seven to 89 days in length, visiting destinations on all seven continents. During this period, the cruise line will also introduce the new Seabourn Encore. The schedule includes popular destinations and favourites, visiting exotic locales such as South America and Antarctica, India, Arabia, Australia, New Zealand, and Southeast and Northern Asia, along with classic favourites in Panama Canal, Canada and New England and the Caribbean. Itineraries feature 18 destinations that are either maiden or 'novelty' ports that the cruise line has not visited in years, including more than a dozen ports in Japan, China and Korea, as well as a series of new Caribbean itineraries from Barbados. In addition, as part of the line's partnership with UNESCO, the schedule includes visits to many UNESCO World Heritage Sites around the world.

**Mandarin Oriental opens in Marrakech** — Located near Marrakech's Royal Golf Club, Mandarin Oriental, Marrakech, is set among 20 hectares of landscaped gardens filled with the best 100,000 roses, bougainvillea, olive trees and prickly pears, and is a short drive to the city's bustling medina. Contemporary in style, the resort's interiors have been conceived in French design. Denis, Patrick Gilles and Dorothee Roissler, who have combined their contrasting styles to create a balanced look. Patrick has focused on clean lines and symmetrical forms while

Dorothee has added subtle Berber and Spanish Arabic touches. The Gilles and Roissler style is clearly seen throughout the hotel, with its emphasis on juxtaposing aesthetics. By combining Berber and Spanish Arabic patterns with contemporary furnishings for the villas and suites, the designers have created a refined sense of place at Mandarin Oriental, Marrakech. Each of the 43 luxurious villas has its own garden and private swimming pool, while nine spacious suites have terraces with spectacular views of the snow-capped Atlas Mountains, two of which are dedicated to well-being with their own treatment room and infinity lap pool. Berber inspiration is also found in the hotel's five restaurants and bars, which are decorated with contemporary reminders of Moroccan arts and crafts. With interior decor inspired by the cathedrals of Andalusia, the Spa at Mandarin Oriental, Marrakech will offer treatments inspired by Moroccan culture, in addition to the Group's signature holistic therapies and programmes, in enchanting treatment rooms shaded by olive trees. Guests at Mandarin Oriental, Marrakech will delight in an atmosphere that combines the exotic charm and relaxed lifestyle of the Red City with the oriental heritage of the award-winning hotel group.

**andBeyond rebrands its Mozambican retreat** — Luxury experiential travel company andBeyond has given its Mozambican retreat a brand new look, and beyond and rebrand has not visited in years, including more than a dozen ports in Japan, China and Korea, as well as a series of new Caribbean itineraries from Barbados. In addition, as part of the line's partnership with UNESCO, the schedule includes visits to many UNESCO World Heritage Sites around the world.

**The Leading Hotels of The World welcomes five new members** — The Leading Hotels of The World has welcomed five new members into its prestigious portfolio of luxury hotels. The latest additions to the collection include hotels located in France, England, Tunisia, Costa Rica and Singapore. The Gainesborough Bath Spa, Bath, England, Hotel Royal - Evian Resort,

Evian-les-Bains, France, La Radina, Hammamet, Tunisia, Alcazra Boutique Hotel, Foz de Zafelen, Costa Rica and The Palms, Capiti Singapore join a diverse collection of more than 400 properties in 80 countries.

**L'Amandier, Morocco** — With a soft opening in October, L'Amandier is a boutique retreat set in the heart of the Ouirgane Valley, just south of Marrakech. The hotel is set atop a plateau at the foothills of the Atlas Mountains, which enjoys 360° views over the surrounding Toukkal National Park, olive groves and stunning gardens. It will open initially with just six suites, all of which will enjoy their own terrace and uninterrupted views of the surrounding landscape and the Ouirgane Lake in the distance. Two luxurious, private rooftop penthouses will follow in 2016. A further 22 beds will be available from the opening in the estate's 14 surrounding villas, which have been sold to private investors. Attention to detail is paramount, and everything from playlists in the bedrooms to products in bathrooms will be aligned with individual preferences - staff make an effort to ensure each L'Amandier experience is specially tailored.

**Renovation at VILA VITA Par, Algarve** — The Residence building in VILA VITA Par has just concluded an extensive six-month renovation, which included refurbishment of 24 Residence Rooms and three suites as well as the two Michelin-starred Ocean restaurant. The new Residence Deluxe Rooms are characterised by a light local living and sleeping area with light coloured hardwood floors, elegantly decorated in a contemporary style with creamy beige and aquamarine tones, inspired by the sandy beaches and the blue waters of the Algarve. With 40 square metres and featuring a spacious bathroom with double sinks and a rain shower room, all rooms either have a garden or balcony, with view over the landscaped gardens, whilst other enjoy spectacular views of the Atlantic Ocean.

The two Townhouse Suites are located on the top floor of the building overlooking the cliff face. Each duplex suite of 650 square metres combines a fabulous living space with magnificent ocean views from their respective balconies, including a luxuriously appointed master bedroom with en suite bathroom, accessible via staircase and a lounge with separate guest shower room on the lower floor. Facing the Ocean, the stylish Residence Grand Suite offers a master bedroom with a spacious bathroom,

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## LUXURY BRIEFING

JULY 15

CIRCULATION 15,000

AVE £1,000

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