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## luxury briefing

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## Luxury Services



**11** **The Wellesley goes to sea** \_\_\_\_\_  
 Guests of The Wellesley, London's first boutique-grand hotel are now able to enjoy the same luxury and service at sea, on an exceptional 32-metre super yacht based in the South of France. MY The Wellesley is an ocean-going beauty that can cater for up to 10 guests, and is available for charter now. Refitted in 2013 by Fox Linton Associates, the expansive living areas above and below deck exude the timeless elegance of 1920s-inspired art deco style, as seen in sister hotel in Knightsbridge. Contemporary entertainment and technology is seamlessly integrated into her golden-era luxury, featuring handmade furniture, bevelled mirrors and stunning fashion photography from the 1920s and 1930s Vanity Fair and Vogue archives. “We're delighted to present MY The Wellesley. The yacht perfectly complements the hotel's boutique feel, bespoke service and personal touches, and we're looking forward to welcoming customers on board to continue to enjoy The Wellesley experience,” says Khalid Affara, owner of The Wellesley.

**12** **Finch Hattons launches** \_\_\_\_\_  
 Finch Hattons luxury tented camp in Tsavo National Park, Kenya opens fully this month, after a successful soft launch in February. Owned by The Intex Real Estate Group, the multi-million dollar renovation of the 35-acre camp includes brand new tented suites, a swimming pool, spa, conference facilities, a star gazing terrace and a yoga deck with views of the Chyulu Hills. South African architect Francois Theron spearheaded the design of the project. Finch Hattons has a rich history, having set the standards in luxury safaris over two decades ago with its multi-course gourmet meals and crystal glassware – a first in the world of eco-tented camps. Originally built in 1992

by German hotelier Peter Frank and Kishan Gehlot, Finch Hattons draws its inspiration from legendary British aristocrat Denys Finch Hutton, an adventurous game hunter turned safari guide. Finch Hutton is credited with introducing luxury safaris to the world. “Finch Hattons is a multi-million dollar investment, affirming our confidence in Kenya as a leading tourism destination. We are proud of delivering one of the best luxury hospitality products in Kenya and we look forward to contributing to the conservation and community efforts in Tsavo West as we have done for the last 25 years,” says Leena Gehlot, a director of Finch Hattons.

**15** **SUJÁN Rajmahal Palace opens** \_\_\_\_\_

SUJÁN recently announced the opening of SUJÁN Rajmahal Palace, Jaipur, India in the heart of the “Pink City”. The SUJÁN Rajmahal Palace – with its original marble staircase, intricate chandeliers and mirrored ceilings, initially comprises 14 suites with a full complement of 30 suites to come. The Palace was redesigned and refurbished by acclaimed designer Adil Ahmad, commissioned by The Royal Family of Jaipur. “This is a milestone for SUJÁN. We are honoured to have been entrusted with this exceptional palace by HH Rajmata Padmini Deviji of Jaipur and the Royal Family of Jaipur. We will ensure that Rajmahal is revived and once again celebrated,” says Jaisal Singh of SUJÁN. Originally built in 1729 by the Maharaja of Jaipur, the palace stands witness to over two hundred years of history. In 1821, Rajmahal was the official residence of the British Resident Political Officer of Rajputana and in 1958 HH Maharaja Sawai Man Singh II – the celebrated ‘Jai’ – chose it for his private residence. Over the decades, the remarkable edifice has hosted Her Majesty the Queen

and the Duke of Edinburgh, along with personalities such as Jackie Kennedy and Lord and Lady Mountbatten.

**14** **The Renaissance Club announces “One Time Experience”** \_\_\_\_\_

The Renaissance Club (TRC), an exclusive golf club on “Scotland's Golf Coast”, has announced the opportunity for non-members to experience what the club has to offer the golfing world. Called the “One Time Experience”, it is exactly how it sounds, with guests invited to TRC just once to play the course or stay, or both. The Renaissance Club has been lauded by Golf Monthly as the ‘Best New Course in Great Britain and Ireland’ and by golfing professionals it is generally accepted as one of the most exquisite golfing venues in the world. Emerging on the East Lothian landscape in 2008, with its breathtaking windswept links and stunning landscape, The Renaissance Club was the vision of founders the Sarvadi family, who worked with acclaimed course architect Tom Doak. Many consider the course to represent the future of links golf. With a recently acquired triangular piece of Muirfield-owned land which Doak fashioned into three new holes and the club's recently completed three-storey clubhouse with accommodation the showpiece is complete, creating a tournament quality venue and world class golfing experience. The “One Time Experience” offers a rare opportunity for non-members to trial the facilities.

**16** **Hands Back Holidays gives back** \_\_\_\_\_

Giving back is the new black and in New York, new this month, travellers can combine a luxury Manhattan escape with a few days giving back at a soup kitchen that feels like a café in the Bronx, with Hands Back Holidays. In addition to staying at the Waldorf Astoria, taking a heli-flight over the city and dining at some of the city's finest restaurants, guests provide hot, healthful fare to people in need, served to tables in a bright, airy space that feels more like a neighbourhood café than a traditional soup kitchen. The soup kitchen works much like a restaurant kitchen and guests are not expected to participate in any of the food preparation. Instead they'll help with food service to an average of 450 guests per day. Designed to resemble a café, rather than a handout, diners are greeted at the door by a hostess and seated at tables decorated with seasonal centrepieces and tablecloths. Working together, staff and volunteers ensure that the hungry and homeless are provided with a dignified environment and treated with respect.