

SquareMeal

AUTUMN 2014 £3.50

LIFESTYLE

BRIGHT
SKYE
GYNGELL STEPS
INTO SPRING

SEASONAL
sensations
HOT IDEAS FOR
COLD MONTHS

DEAR
JOHN
CUSACK KEEPS
HIS COOL

CLASSIC
LONDON
DRINKING
DENS

HOLIDAYS
FOR WINE
LOVERS

plus

MOTORING WATCHES TRAVEL FASHION COCKTAILS REVIEWS



Room at Raffles, Istanbul

Singapore's Raffles hotel chain is making a big noise about expanding from its Asian base into Europe, and there's nowhere better to make this statement than Istanbul. Rooms at the recently opened Raffles Istanbul (pictured below), on the European side, boast panoramas of boats pattering along the Bosphorous. From £475; raffles.com



Boutique boho, Berlin

One of the city's few Jugendstil buildings left unscathed by WWII bombs, Berlin's Hotel Zoo was once home to creatures as distinguished as Sophia Loren and Grace Kelly. In recent times it lost its boho charm and its party animals, too, but it looks set to regain them this autumn when it opens after a long transformation into a boutique hotel. From £89; hotelzoo.de



Safari chic, Botswana

Most safari camps follow a time-tested formula: canvas tents, a few pith helmets, miscellaneous antlers... It's a rulebook that's been chucked into the waterhole at the Sandibe Safari Lodge (pictured above) – a camp beside the sprawling wetlands of Botswana's Okavango Delta. From £543pp based on two sharing; andbeyond.com

travel



PARTY LIKE UNCLE JOE IN MOSCOW

The Hotel Moskva has a special place in Russian history. Stalin celebrated his birthdays here; Yuri Gagarin lodged here after his pioneering space flight; and thousands of Russians see the hotel whenever they sip Stolichnaya Vodka (it's on the label). Pay a visit to the Russian capital to stay at the Four Seasons Moskva, opening this month in a rebuilt version of the original. The rooms would make Uncle Joe proud, with silky fabrics, tall windows and elements of Soviet constructivism in the architecture. Book a room on the top floor and you'll be rewarded with views of Red Square and the Kremlin beyond.

- Opens 30 October. From £483; fourseasons.com
- British Airways and Aeroflot both fly to Moscow from London. From £174; ba.com



Live it up like a Rajasthani royal in Jaipur

The Rajmahal Palace is a sprawling 18th-century palace in the Indian city of Jaipur. It was originally a gift from Maharaja Jai Singh II to his wife, but was converted into a rather lacklustre hotel in the 20th century. This November sees the hotel reopen under new management, reinvigorated with Rajasthani royal panache – twinkly chandeliers and grand marble staircases with 20 guest rooms done out with swish subcontinental motifs. Be sure to visit the new hotel spa after a long day haggling in the bazaars of Jaipur, or else dawdle in shady arcades with a GST.

- The Sujan Rajmahal Palace opens in November. From £350; sujanluxury.com
- No direct flights operate between the UK and Jaipur; however, Air India offers tickets, changing at Dubai. From £734; airindia.com