TRAVELBOOK The Relais & Châteaux magazine

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21 Meaningful Travel Ideas for 2021

With our migratory impulses fettered, our longing for distant horizons shackled by Covid-19, travel is a frequent theme of our dreams. Getting away gains value by virtue of its not being within easy reach, we now consider a voyage's deeper meaning before setting out in 2021.











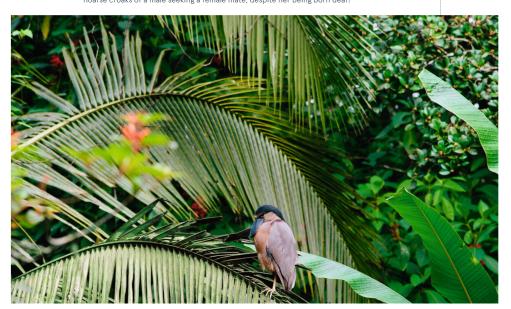




ANNE-MARIE CATTELAIN - A lover of distant horizons, Anne-Marie Cattelain Le Dû was part of the 2002 launch of *Hôtel & Lodge* magazine. After managing the publication, she continues to this day working as one of its senior reporters. Exploring the world, its peoples, and their civilizations is her inspiration; writing is her passion. She has published numerous books on women, law, politics, and travel, including on China, Africa, and the Indian Ocean, where she once lived.

1. Celebrate biodiversity - Nayara Gardens, Costa Rica

The notion of treetop adventure takes on new meaning at Nayara Gardens, where the guest rooms are literally embraced by the canopy. The jungle creeps into the gardens, with the Arenal $\label{thm:condition} \mbox{Volcano as a backdrop. Raising guests' awareness of the environment is the \it raison \it d'être. \\$ Naturalist guides lead hikes on the slopes of the Arenal to "spy" on the thousands of endemic or migrating birds, while respecting their habitat. And, on night safaris, discover 28 rare frog species in the ponds. Deep in the tropical rainforest, aquatic and musical worlds collide in the hoarse croaks of a male seeking a female mate, despite her being born deaf!





15. Encourage sustainable hospitality - <u>The Little Nell</u>, United States

America's poshest ski resort—Aspen, Colorado—is a five-star experience. But if you care about the planet, stay at The Little Nell, the only five-star property in the United States to be ISO 14001-certified in environmental management. To proactively protect the planet, its managers have adopted responsible policies: reducing energy use, installing solar panels, serving cuisine from principally local ingredients, funding the employee-run Environmental Foundation, to which guests are invited to contribute, to lessen the impacts of climate change. Lastly, the Eco-Luxe Program reduces laundry, plastics, and vehicle use on and around the property. A breath of fresh air for a suffocating world.



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16. Go back in time - Cirqa, Peru

Sleeping in one of the 11 rooms at Cirqa evokes the glow of privilege, the thrill of adventure. This former monastery dating from 1540, like its city of Arequipa, is at a lofty 7,660 feet above sea level, surrounded by three volcances. The well-preserved 16th- and 17th-century colonial buildings, all in white, hand-hewn volcanic stone, form a remarkable architectural ensemble that is now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Taking the scenic road to Titilaka, you reach the highlands, where herds of breeder-raised llama and alpaca coexist with the wild hordes of guanacos and vicuñas. Pastoral scenes that have remained unchanged for centuries. Like Arequipa.



17. Watch marine life - Glenapp Castle, Scotland

It would be called, by some, a "folly"—a romantic residence with an unbridled architectural style. Glenapp Castle, a riot of towers and turrets, built in 1870 by famed architect David Bryce, sits majestically on a hill overlooking the Irish Sea. Leaving the cozy comforts of the 17 wood-paneled rooms, you could spend a night or two in the hotel's tent camp staked downstream on the coast. From that starting point, come morning, you can boat along the archipelago of the Hebrides, between the islands of Ailsa Craig, Arran and Holy Island, in pursuit of dolphins, as hundreds of enormous seabirds fly overhead. A true sea safari.



18. Rest and recharge - Taubenkobel, Austria

A winemaker's home with the bewitching charm of a doll's house, a cocoon of soothing comfort just 30 miles from Vienna. Taubenkobel does have a fairytale feel about it, with its white outer walls, its 10 hushed and cozy rooms opening onto the garden, its wide pond suitable for summer swimming, and the hiking trails bordering the property. You can traverse them on foot or by bike to burn off the two-star cuisine of Chef Alain Weissgerber. He owns the premises with his wife, Barbara Eselböck, daughter of the first owners, at once manager and sommelier herself—a most attentive duo. Home sweet home!



© Gabriel & Ruxandra Gavrilescu

19. Discover traditional living - Bellevue Hotel & Spa, Italia

Go back in time at the <u>Bellevue Hotel</u>, where Valle d'Aosta lifestyle and traditions are preserved and practiced through paintings objects furniture the staff's period attire as well as the

painted by Paul Gauguin, sung about by Jacques Brel. In this unspoiled Eden, you feel reborn, joining the locals in dances like the ${\it Haka\ Manu}$, the Bird Dance. Savoring fish prepared by a $fisherman. \ Swimming \ in \ the \ crystal-clear \ waters \ of \ Anaho, \ the \ world's \ most \ beautiful \ bay. \ Spend$ time in paradise and reconnect with humanity's roots.



INFORMATION

- Nayara Gardens, La Fortuna de San Carlos, Costa Rica

- Nayara Gardust, Ear Orluma de San Carlos, Ossa Nica
 Herdade da Malhadinha Nova, Beja, Portugal
 Epako Safari Lodge & Spa, Omaruru, Namibia
 Clayoquot Wilderness Lodge, Tofino, British Columbia, Canada
 L'effervescence, Minato-ku, Japan
 Suján Sher Bagh, Ranthambhore, India

- Domaine de Rymska, Saint-Jean-de-Trézy, France
 Maslina Resort, Stari Grad, Croatia
- Gravetye Manor, West Hoathly, United Kingdom
- Pikaia Lodge, Galapagos Archipelago, Ecuador
 Fontenille Menorca Torre Vella, Alaior, Spain
 Castle Hill Inn, Newport, Rhode Island, United States
 Hotel Grad Otočec, Otočec, Slovenia

- Huka Lodge, Taupo, New-Zealand
 The Little Nell, Aspen, Colorado, United States
 Cirqa, Arequipa, Peru
- Glenapp Castle, Ballantrae, Scotland, United Kingdom
 Taubenkobel, Schützen/Gebirge, Austria
- Bellevue Hotel & Spa, Cogne, Italia
 In Lain Hotel Cadonau, Brail, Switzerland
- Le Nuku Hiva, Marguesas Islands, French Polynesia

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