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Greening the Americas: 4 eco-friendly lodges off the beaten track

BY JON WALL

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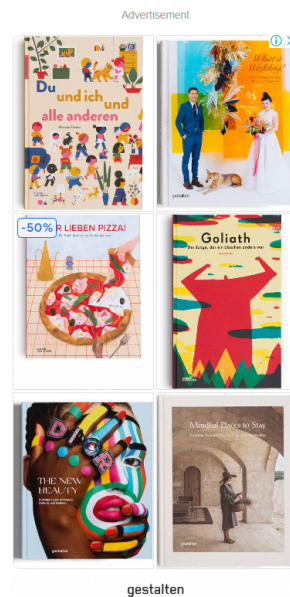
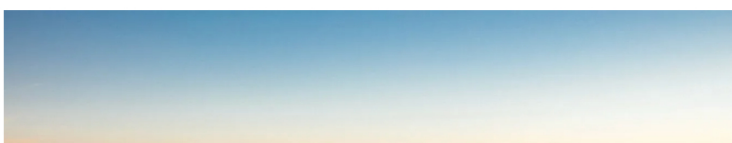
As luxury travel in the Western Hemisphere becomes increasingly eco-friendly, here are four remarkable off-the-beaten-track resorts that mix sustainability with sophistication.



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From the temperate rainforest coastline of western Canada to the high peaks and plateaus of the Andes, the continents of North and South America, by way of the balmy blue waters of the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean, have gone wild for eco-lodges, many of them far from the beaten track. If your notion of the perfect vacation is to leave the crowds behind and head for extraordinary experiences in stunning locations few have travelled to, we've selected four remarkable resorts where you can do just that: one in the wilderness of British Columbia, one on the gorgeous island of Saint Lucia, a third on the Peruvian shore of Lake Titicaca and, our final stop, on the high Atacama Desert in northern Chile.

NIMMO BAY WILDERNESS RESORT
Canada



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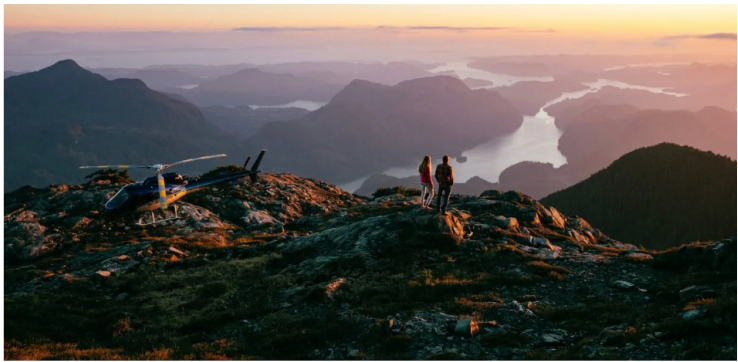
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Picturesque views at Nimmo Bay Wilderness Resort in British Columbia

If you were looking to lose yourself in the wilds of Canada's rugged West Coast, the name of this region – the Southern Great Bear Rainforest – pretty much says it all. This vast wildwood expanse, where the mountains touch the shores of the Pacific Ocean, is where the family-run [Nimmo Bay Wilderness Resort](#) has been welcoming guests for the best part of 40 years. Flying in by floatplane direct from Vancouver (there's no road access), you'll stay in either a spacious overwater intertidal cabin or in equally comfortable accommodation among the trees, with a stream and waterfall bubbling close by.



Cabins at Nimmo Bay Wilderness Resort in British Columbia

Once comfortably ensconced, choose from kayaking, rafting, paddleboarding or swimming on Mackenzie Sound, forest hikes and wildlife spotting (whales, orca, eagles, bobcats and bears – and all from a safe distance), or fishing trips by boat or helicopter. Back in the resort, unwind in the spa or sauna, feast on the freshest local produce prepared by chef David Hassell or simply sip cocktails in the warmth of a crackling log fire.

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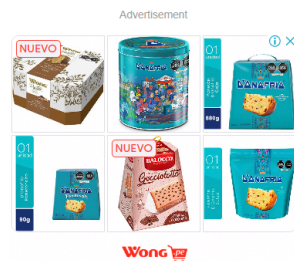
Titilaka lies on a private peninsula

Some 3,800 metres up in the Andes on the border of Peru and Bolivia, Titikaka is the world's highest navigable lake and one of the largest bodies of fresh water in South America. Here, on a private peninsula on the lake's southeastern shore, lies the delightful 18-room Titilaka, a remote but discreetly luxurious hideaway designed and run on strictly sustainable principles. If there's time in your itinerary, take the PeruRail Titicaca Train from Cusco to Puno (it has an open-air observation car), after which there's a 45-minute drive to the resort.



Almost every spot at Titilaka commands a superb view

Then relax in your stylish and comfortable accommodation, soaking up the stunning views through the floor-to-ceiling windows that are a feature of every room. Beyond the resort, there's rowing, kayaking and even sailing-boat charter to the lake's famed floating islands, or the former Incan birthplace of the Isla del Sol – or simply stay on dry land and hike around this magical upland area. Dine on locally sourced ingredients – the fish comes straight from the lake – and if you enjoy a late, late nightcap, the hotel bar is open till 2.30am.



JADE MOUNTAIN RESORT Saint Lucia



Jade Mountain Resort has 29 guest suites.

It's hard to believe Jade Mountain Resort, an other-worldly pile of platforms, catwalks,

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