

TATLER



TRAVEL GUIDE 2018



101 HOTELS BEACH

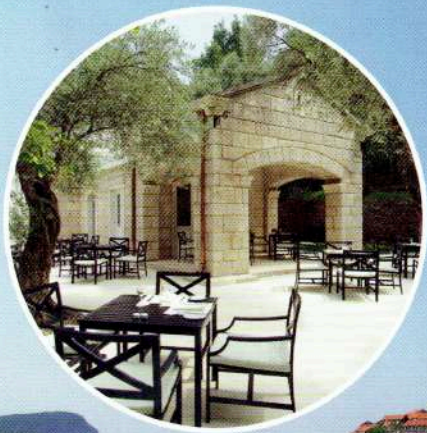


BAHAMA HOUSE

HARBOUR ISLAND, BAHAMAS

Sitting among candy-coloured houses and bright bougainvillea and two ticks from the famous Pink Sands beach, Bahama House will make your stay on Harbour Island rocket from lovely to spectacular. Run by Eleven Experience, it's 11 rooms of Bahamian-meets-colonial, a boutique hotel they'd prefer you to think of as home. And, thanks to the fantastic team, you really will. Venture out for lunch at the heavenly Ocean Tally; bounce across the perfect blue in a speedboat; and visit astonishing beaches to eat conch ceviche prepared right there by the outstanding resident chef, Niki. This is luxury without that sense of awkward separation. It's clever. Get to know the island through those who know it best – and don't be surprised if you fall in love with the team as much as the place itself. *Double, from £415, half board, including transfers and excursions* (elevenexperience.com; 020 8102 9800).

AND ANOTHER THING Don't just visit the Sapphire Blue Hole on nearby Eleuthera – leap in. But make sure you're with someone strong to help you up the rope ladder afterwards.



AMAN SVETI STEFAN

SVETI STEFAN, MONTENEGRO

This tiny island, fortified in the 15th century, is connected to the Montenegrin coast by nothing but a narrow walkway. It's been a hotel since the Sixties, a favourite of Sophia Loren and the Snowdons, but then Aman swept in, giving it much love in a very Aman way. It still has a village feel, but behind every door is a minimalist haven: dark-wood beams, fishermen's lamps, shampoo in little stoneware pots that perfectly match the stone outside. The Piazza serves Balkan delicacies and the best pizza you've ever had. There is a spa on the mainland, where therapists will smother you in herb-infused oils. But the real blessing is the three private beaches, each more secluded than the last and staffed by handsome men who'll bring you cold water and anything else you might require. So all you need do is float in the warm waters, lounge, float some more, and repeat.

Elegant Resorts (elegantresorts.co.uk; 01244 897515) offers seven nights from £2,745, including breakfast, flights and transfers.

AND ANOTHER THING The town of Bar, an hour away, is full of picturesque ruins and cobbled streets where you can buy exotic sweets.

Sophia Loren, a regular at Sveti Stefan in the Sixties

