

signature luxury

# TRAVEL & style

## The CRUISE ISSUE

BEST-OF-THE-BEST  
CRUISE AWARDS

10 OF THE WORLD'S  
MOST REMOTE HOTELS

NEW CALEDONIA BY SUPERYACHT

LAKE COMO: CONCOURS D'ELEGANCE

YUKON: BEHIND THE LENS

POLAR EXPEDITIONS

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# 1

## EXPLORA PATAGONIA

Chile

Perched amid the wild mountain terrain of Torres del Paine National Park, Explora Patagonia is bordered by Lake Pehoé, the Salto Chico Falls and the Paine River on the southernmost tip of the world. Its nearest city is Cerro Castillo, some 78 kilometres away, though the hotel coordinates ground transfers for guests from Punta Arenas or Puerto Natales airports. Curated to reconnect the adventurous heart with the natural world, the hotel offers an extensive menu of 40 exploration routes of its wild Chilean surrounds, designed and led by a team of outdoor specialists. These include walks through woods of *lenga* trees, riding horseback through the surrounding grasslands and rivers, and hikes that trail the Paine Massif, all without another soul in sight. [explora.com](http://explora.com)



**2** BLANCANEUX LODGE *Belize*  
Concealed within Mountain Pine Ridge Forest Reserve, this lodge houses just 20 rooms within an astonishing 196 hectares of protected forest. Guests may arrive by charter flight or helicopter to the lodge's private airstrip, or ground transfers can be arranged. Thatch-roofed cabanas, natural pools and a waterfall spa (yes, it's exactly what it sounds like) are ingeniously inscribed into the landscape, inviting guests to the jaw-dropping simplicity of the paradise of our collective imagination. The lodge provides a unique opportunity to explore the ancient civilisation of the Maya, whose hieroglyphic script is the only known fully developed writing system of the pre-Columbian Americas. [thefamilycoppolahideaways.com](http://thefamilycoppolahideaways.com)

# TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

Leave the rush of everyday life behind at some of the world's most remote retreats. Kate Powell shares the extraordinary destinations where the journey – often by air or sea – is more than worth the effort.





## 4 DEPLAR FARM *Iceland*

In a remote valley on Iceland's northern coastline, this destination is bordered on all sides by mountains, fjords and, in the warmer months, far-reaching fields of deep green. Its two heli-pads welcome guests arriving by chopper, and farewell those venturing out on heli-skiing excursions. From geothermal-heated pools in those cool winter days of limited sunlight, you may be lucky enough to receive uninterrupted views of the northern lights. The lodge offers a luxurious, secluded gateway to a range of sea-kayaking and whale-watching adventures, equipped with luxury spa facilities including four treatment rooms and two i-sopod flotation tanks. Housing only 13 bedrooms, the accommodations are designed to be both spacious and cosy featuring steam showers, soaking tubs and warm, open fireplaces. [elevenexperience.com](http://elevenexperience.com)

Image © Eleven Experience

## 3 MINARET STATION *New Zealand*

Sheltered by the seclusion of the Southern Alps, this intimate family-owned alpine lodge is accessible only by helicopter, where the rugged mountains unique to New Zealand's wilderness provide the ultimate privacy. Whether searching for adventurous heli-tours or secluded self-reflection, guests are catered for with personalised care as each itinerary is curated to their unique needs. The lodge extends its range of accommodation with the offer of a number of private chalets, each separately positioned in a high alpine meadow and featuring in-deck hot tubs, spacious ensuite bathrooms and sweeping views of nothing save the uninhabited expanse of the surrounding alpine region. [minaretstation.com](http://minaretstation.com)



Image © Fogo Island Inn

## 5 FOGO ISLAND INN *Canada*

The wild North Atlantic Ocean and the warmth of the 2,395 locals are the only constants on this rugged island in 'Iceberg Alley'. The closest international airport is on Newfoundland Island, with visitors then needing to take the 45-minute ferry across Hamilton Sound or charter a plane to Fogo Island's airstrip. The journey is well worth the effort, however, with the 29-suite stilted Inn serving as your gateway to the wildlife, adventure and legends of the island. The hotel's Community Host Program matches guests with a local to share with you Fogo's highlights and the secrets of its seven seasons, from berry-picking and fishing to cross-country skiing and walks through fields of wildflowers. Perched on the island's northern coast, the lodge offers a warm and cosy retreat of floor-to-ceiling ocean views, wood-burning stoves and hand-made touches against a fresh, white palette. Relax into the wood-fired hot tubs on the fourth-floor rooftop deck and savour seasonal cuisine in the Dining Room with a view of icebergs, whales or the might of an Atlantic gale, depending upon the season. [fogoislandinn.ca](http://fogoislandinn.ca)

## 6 ANDBEYOND NGORONGORO CRATER LODGE *Tanzania*

This lodge is hidden inside the Ngorongoro Conservation Area, surrounded by more than 8,000 square kilometres of pristine African wilderness. From Arusha airport, guests fly to the Lake Manyara Airstrip to be met by the lodge's closed game-viewing vehicles which privately escort them to Ngorongoro Crater, approximately 90 minutes away. Perched on the crater's rim, even the bathrooms in these luxe suites offer spectacular views of the wild landscape below. The fresh springs on the crater floor are home to a rich variety of wildlife, even welcoming flocks of wild flamingos. The lodge's Victorian interior features velvet furnishings lit by crystal chandeliers, complementing African art in unexpected harmony. [andbeyond.com](http://andbeyond.com)



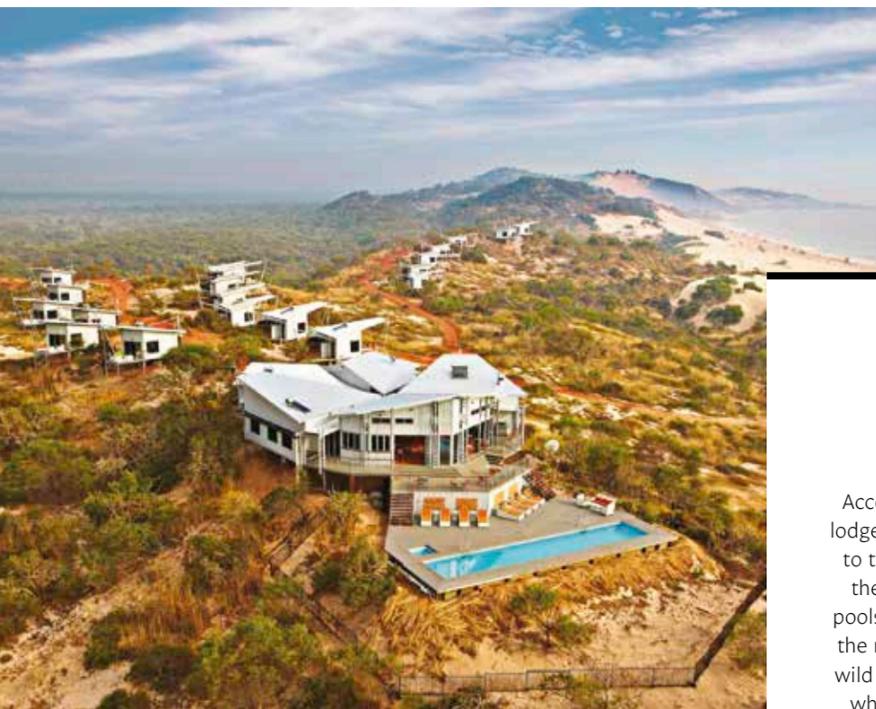


# 7

## CLAYOQUOT WILDERNESS RESORT

Canada

Relais & Châteaux finesse meets the rugged beauty of Vancouver Island at this tented safari retreat, a 45-minute seaplane flight from Vancouver or a swift boat ride from the village of Tofino. Open between May and September each year, the resort puts the 242-hectare UNESCO Biosphere Reserve of Clayoquot Sound on your doorstep. This outdoors playground, home to bears and whales, is the backdrop for a host of included equestrian, freshwater, saltwater and restorative activities, plus extra ‘à la carte’ heli-adventures (from heli-fishing to heli-yoga) and the ultimate Cloud Day Experience near the top of Ursus Mountain. Back at the camp, there are 25 guest tents, lounge tents and dining on contemporary coastal fare. [wildretreat.com](http://wildretreat.com)



# 8

## MASHPI LODGE

Ecuador

On a scenic plateau surrounded by forested mountains, Mashpi Lodge sits 950 metres above sea level. It is accessible only to its guests, who are collected by the lodge’s private airport transfer service from the city of Quito and driven approximately four hours to its discreet location. Protruding from the hillside, a series of floor-to-ceiling panoramic windows allow a feeling of natural immersion even within the lodge. From here, guests may see a staggering 400 species of birds in addition to monkeys that call the reserve home, or they can zip through the forest canopy on The Dragonfly, a two-kilometre-long cable system. [mashpilodge.com](http://mashpilodge.com)

# 9

## BERKELEY RIVER LODGE

Australia

Accessible only by air, this remote Western Australian lodge nestles itself between sunrises over the Timor Sea to the east, and to the west, vibrant red sunsets over the Berkeley River. Bathe in pristine freshwater rock pools, dive under the plummeting waterfalls or, back at the resort, take laps in the pool overlooking Australia’s wild landscape. Private villas offer an open-air ensuite, whose freestanding bath tubs allow guests to bathe under the moonlight. [berkeleyriverlodge.com.au](http://berkeleyriverlodge.com.au)



# 10

## NIMMO BAY RESORT

Canada

Accessible only via the sky or sea, this small, family-owned lodge seems to float at the water’s edge, surrounded by British Columbia’s Great Bear Rainforest. Although Nimmo Bay began as a fishing lodge in the 1980s, today it welcomes all travellers in search of natural connection, seclusion and wilderness adventures. Go whale-watching in the surrounding waters, home to in excess of 50 humpbacks and pods of orcas that are drawn to the bay’s plentiful salmon, or head into the forest for heli-hiking, wildlife viewing or glacier trekking. Guests may choose to stay in one of the six intertidal or three forest cabins, all of which offer two bedrooms, a living area and bathroom and a private outdoor lounging area. After a day of kayaking, heli-fishing or paddleboarding, a couple of cedar hot tubs at the foot of a thundering waterfall are the pinnacle of comfort in this exclusive piece of paradise. [nimmobay.com](http://nimmobay.com)

