



AGENDA

Fall into autumn and winter 2011/12: Agenda rounds up the latest hotels, restaurants and spas around the world as the weather cools down, but the season heats up.

Sleep

Whether it's a private island in a Cambodian archipelago, city break in Manhattan, yachting on the Mediterranean or experiencing an Indian historical hidaway, Agenda answers all travel needs this season with a roundup of the latest hotels and retreats to open around the globe.

Mondrian SoHo New York, USA

Amongst the A-list residents, fashionable and picturesque streets, and charm and energy of lower Manhattan's SoHo neighbourhood, the newest creation from the Morgans Hotel Group delivers the luxurious, chic and comfortable style for which the Mondrian brand is best known. The romantic design draws inspiration from Jean Coucteau's 1946 French fantasy film *La Belle et la Bête*, an iconic romantic adaptation of two French fairy tales, awakening the imagination and inviting guests into a vibrant escape. Visionary designer Benjamin Noriega-Ortiz collaborated with the Morgan in-house design team to ensure the signature Mondrian brand ethos was interwoven in the subtle yet provocative design features throughout the property where fantasy meets sophisticated chic. As well as the 270 rooms including four sprawling suites and a 25th floor penthouse with dramatic views of the Empire State Building, the edifice boasts a romantic garden building showcasing an oversized sculpture by acclaimed artist Beth Lipman, and the hotly anticipated Imperial No. Nine restaurant where Chef Sam Talbot introduces his sustainable seafood concept.
Mondrian SoHo, 9 Crosby Street, NY 10013, New York, USA, T +1 212 389 1000, W mondriansoho.com

Song Saa Cambodia

Song Saa is the brainchild of Australian couple Rory and Melita Hunter, following their dream to create a sustainable sanctuary of uncompromising luxury. Khmer for 'The Sweethearts', the Song Saa are two pristine islands which lie side-by-side in Cambodia's untouched Koh Rong Archipelago. Opening in early 2012, the private island is as seductive as the name implies: an intimate resort in a remote undiscovered paradise. The 27 over-water, ocean-view and beach villas are constructed from sustainable materials and in perfect harmony with this magical environment of turquoise ocean, white sands and wild rainforest, and will be complemented by a world class restaurant spectacularly positioned over the ocean. The sense of well-being is enhanced with a yoga centre and spa on a separate isle. A host of guest activities will be offered to authentically showcase the surrounding archipelago, its staggering scenery and innately friendly people, including kayaking the fresh water estuaries, hiking through virgin rainforest, and snorkeling and diving with the resort's marine biologists. *Song Saa Private Island, Koh Ouen, Sihanoukville, Cambodia, T +855 77 777 439, W songsaa.com*



The Leela Palace New Delhi, India

The Leela Palace, part of the Kempinski Group, exemplifies the splendid tradition, grace and elegance of Lutyens' Delhi with the serene ambience of a personal palace. With dazzling Murano chandeliers from Italy; hand-woven carpets from Turkey; an art collection valued at US\$5 million; majestic royal-elephants, hand-carved using sandstone from Qatar; miniature paintings by the craftsmen of Rajasthan; and bidri work from Uttar Pradesh adorning the walls and ceilings, and a gold-leafed dome similar to the one at the Rashtrapati Bhavanm, the hotel is a modern marvel. The Leela Palace New Delhi is also the first hotel to be designed for Gold LEED certification, ensuring every aspect of the design, from rain-water harvesting to solar energy application, addresses the need for sustainable development and environmental conservation. The facilities include 260 oversized guestrooms and suites which are the largest in the city, a 6,500 square foot spa, a heated infinity pool on the rooftop, a whisky and wine bar and tea lounge as well as an array of five restaurants and lounges. *The Leela Palace, New Delhi, India, T +91 11 3933 1234, W theleela.com*



Mandarin Oriental Paris, France

Just opened this summer, the latest addition to the Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group stable has the most prestigious address in the heart of this fashion capital, with the Garnier Opera, the Louvre and the Tuileries Gardens all close by. The original, magnificent Art Deco façade of this luxury hotel has been beautifully complemented by chic, contemporary interiors, making it a most luxurious, glamorous and Parisian experience in the city. Working with the foremost international names in architecture and design such as architect Jean-Michel Wilmotte and interior designer Sybille de Margerie, the hotel combines Parisian sophistication with art deco details and oriental touches. Dining facilities include two restaurants, a live cooking counter, a bar, cake shop and a garden which together offer a variety of settings and moods, while the 900 square meter spa offers a holistic experience to promote complete mind-body harmony. *Mandarin Oriental, 251 rue Saint-Honoré 75001, Paris, France, T +33 1 70 98 78 88 W mandarinoriental.com/paris*