

# TATLER®

## *Travel Guide 2022*

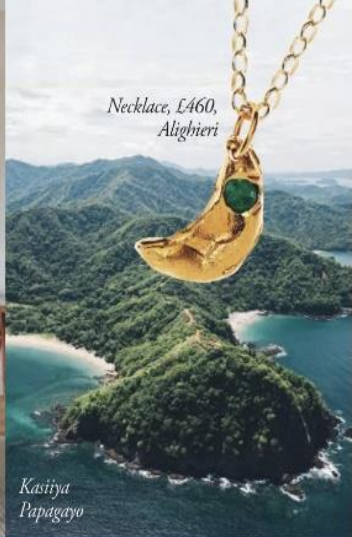
*The 101 best hotels in the world*



# Editor's letter



Left, Delilah Khomo at Il Pellicano, Porto Ercole. Right, the Mayfair Suite at Claridge's. Below, ashtray, £30, Issimo



Necklace, £460, Alighieri

Kastiyu Papagayo

Sunglasses, £280, Loewe



'IF WE ARE TO MAKE REALITY ENDURABLE, WE MUST all nourish a fantasy or two,' as Marcel Proust so wisely said; and I have known many fantasies in the last year, from deepening my spiritual life on a Welsh holy island – an alluring and properly magical destination – to lying in a cabana at the Hotel du Cap, snacking on a sensational club sandwich. Sybaritic as well as spiritual. (But, hey, who's judging?)

Then there was that *ne plus ultra* of fantasy and *Tatler* Hotel of the Year, Castello di Reschio in Umbria – a true utopia where, back in August, I just wanted to relish life: riding, picking wildflowers and watching shooting stars over the weekend of San Lorenzo's feast day.

But all the hotels celebrated in this year's *Tatler Travel Guide* – and they are the world's best – have an elusive something: a sense of authenticity, breathing space, the thrill of the new or the joyful nostalgia that comes with revisiting places you know and love, such as Claridge's, a force field of glamour that can be felt IRL or from afar. And let's not forget the hoteliers who are trying to do some good. Because, ultimately, the biggest luxury a traveller can experience is staying in those environmentally and socially conscious places that allow guests to make a difference to the lives of those they visit (such as Nomad's Chada Katavi Camp, another of our award-winners). This year, more than ever, *Tatler* wants to shine a light on the sustainable stars and those on the frontline of conservation.

Still, while it's exciting and exhilarating to think of all the far-flung fun to be had, I for one am not going to forget the transformative energies and healing powers of Britain (page 78) that so helped me when I needed them most. And so we celebrate those places in our own country that have a vivid, valuable allure in the current world disorder.

Last year was for dreaming, this year is for doing. Times are uncertain but, armed with the right advice, we can keep our sense of adventure and still live it up a little. Bon voyage!

**DELILAH KHOMO**  
Travel Editor

Hotel Castello di Reschio



Cardigan, £535, Wales Bonner. Dragon ring, £1,750, Bentley & Skinner



Suite Impériale, Ritz Paris



Ty Bach and Ty Nesaf cottages, Bardsey Island



Villa Mabrouka



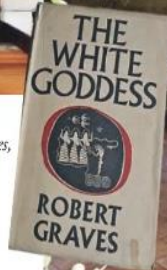
Portrait of a Lady eau de parfum, £250, Frédéric Malle



Domaine des Erangs



Above, L'Hôtel Marrakech. The White Goddess by Robert Graves, POA, Harrington Books. Lurum mule, £925, Manolo Blahnik



# *The 101 best hotels in the world*

*They stand resplendent in exquisite settings, offering opulence with soul, fantasy with fun, and generously sprinkling their stardust on guests. Welcome to the most spectacular hotels on Earth*



# Castles in the air

*Sometimes real life does meet fantasy. These fortified citadels, grand palaces and ancient estates are blasts from the past, while offering forward-thinking 21st-century hospitality*



*Hotel Castello di Reschio, a 1,000-year-old castle in Umbria brought exquisitely to life by Count and Countess Bolza*

**TATLER**  
AWARD-WINNER  
2022

## HOTEL CASTELLO DI RESCHIO

*Perugia, Italy*

With the most enchanting taste, Count Benedikt Bolza and his wife Nencia have lovingly restored and decorated their 10th-century castle – once a romantic ruin – into a place of dreams and one of the most stunning hotels in the world. Reschio is a poem of loveliness: the castle bedecked with the finest Italian linens, antiques and vases of wild flowers. Nor is there anything derivative or gimmicky about its transformation. Yes, the pool might be infinity; but it's so cleverly sculpted into the meadow that it looks like a lake formed at the dawn of time. The equestrian facilities are extraordinary, as is the beauty of the estate's Spanish horses. (Watch Count Benedikt's father Antonello do his daily dressage: it's pure Visconti.) Moreover, most of the food is organically grown or reared on the 1,500-hectare estate. This is a true utopia: in a time when hotels can't wait to boast of their eco credentials, the Bolzas hate to discuss their 'sustainability' plans, because they do it naturally, and have done so for years. Florian, the charming general manager, understands the magic of a hotel being run like a friend's grand yet comfortable

country house (but with slicker service and white-jacketed waiters to shake up fabulous Negronis). Reschio also offers the world's most romantic spa, the dreamy Bathhouse, which is home to a hammam, sauna and a large plunge pool that fills the castle's dramatic vaulted stone cellar. The exceptional therapist Maria performs the most extraordinary lymphatic drainage massage and treatment involving a wallow in a bathtub filled with camomile flowers and other herbs collected by the countess. Time spent here is magical; there could be no more enchanting a spot for sitting on a terrace overlooking the Umbrian hills, feasting on tagliolini with white truffles (you can forage for them in autumn). Summers are recreated the way they used to be here: jazz evenings; swing dancing in the restaurant-hangout Alle Scuderie; joining the owners' family in the shelling of lavender at harvest time; enjoying lavish picnics in the lake cabin and spending the day on the water; or cantering in the golden light of dusk through this ancient landscape. This is a place handmade with love. *Doubles from £670, including breakfast (reschio.com).*