

Paris / Thomas Keller, Jean-Claude Biver, / Casual spring tailoring on the / Amsterdam, The Bahamas,
London / David Miliband, Roberta Naas / streets of New York City / Barcelona, Cook Islands, London / May/June 2017

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LIFESTYLE MAGAZINE




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restaurants
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TOP NEW HOTELS

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New Hotels Top 10

From peaceful palapas above tropical fish-filled lagoons to regal architecture in the heart of the world's most energetic cities, we bring you the best luxury hotel openings of the past year

by Kristen Shirley, Lauren Hill, Olenka Hamilton and Samantha Coles





Anantara Al Jabal Al Akhdar, Oman

OPENED OCTOBER 2016

The Middle East's highest luxury resort, Anantara's newest hotel is set 6,500ft above sea level on the Saiq Plateau of Jabal Akhdar, an area known for its damask roses. A two-hour drive from Muscat airport and just half an hour from the historic city of Nizwa, the hotel sits secluded on the rim of a vast canyon, with staggering views of the rugged mountain peaks that surround it. Their cliffside Jacuzzi and infinity pool are irresistible to guests, who may also choose to take daily yoga classes on Diana's Point, a promontory that sits dramatically on the edge of the canyon and is named after Diana, Princess of Wales, who visited the spot in 1986. The hotel has 115 luxury rooms, and private villas with spacious rooms, kitted out with traditional yet understated Omani furniture and divine bath products that aim to reflect the area's indigenous scents. As well as a state-of-the-art spa offering hammams and five treatment rooms with therapists who truly have that magic touch, the hotel offers local guided hikes and walking tours around the nearby ancient mud-brick villages, which take guests past date plantations and orchards of pomegranate trees, and even the home of one of the world's oldest remaining rose-water distillers. Visitors can dine in one of the hotels' six restaurants, the best of which is Italian restaurant Bella Vista. Its chef has been flown over from Sicily to cook to-die-for pizzas using his grandmother's recipes. Staff are extremely attentive yet discreet. **Royal Mountain Villa from \$4,600 per night. Contact Darren Darwin, general manager, ddarwin@anantara.com, +96 825 218 000, jabal-akhdar.anantara.com**



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