



# ON THE MOON

OUT OF THIS WORLD HONEYMOONS

Smith

Mr & Mrs Smith



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KEY:



**MINIMOON**

A short but sweet retreat



**FULL MOON**

An unforgettable fortnight



**MAXIMOON**

Make an adventure of it

## LIFE'S BETTER ON THE MOON

We get our cosmic thrills by sending couples to the moon – no, really. Forget space walks and sachet food, though: our couples can expect celestial massages, starlit dining and earth-shattering service... Because not only do we signpost the universe's most extraordinary hotel experiences, but we ensure the most stylish of landings at the ideal time of year, too. So for an out-of-this-world honeymoon, make contact with Mr & Mrs Smith .

Whether you want a few weeks of long-haul lounging or a minimoon in a romantic city, we can tailor a trip to your tastes, whatever the size of your budget.

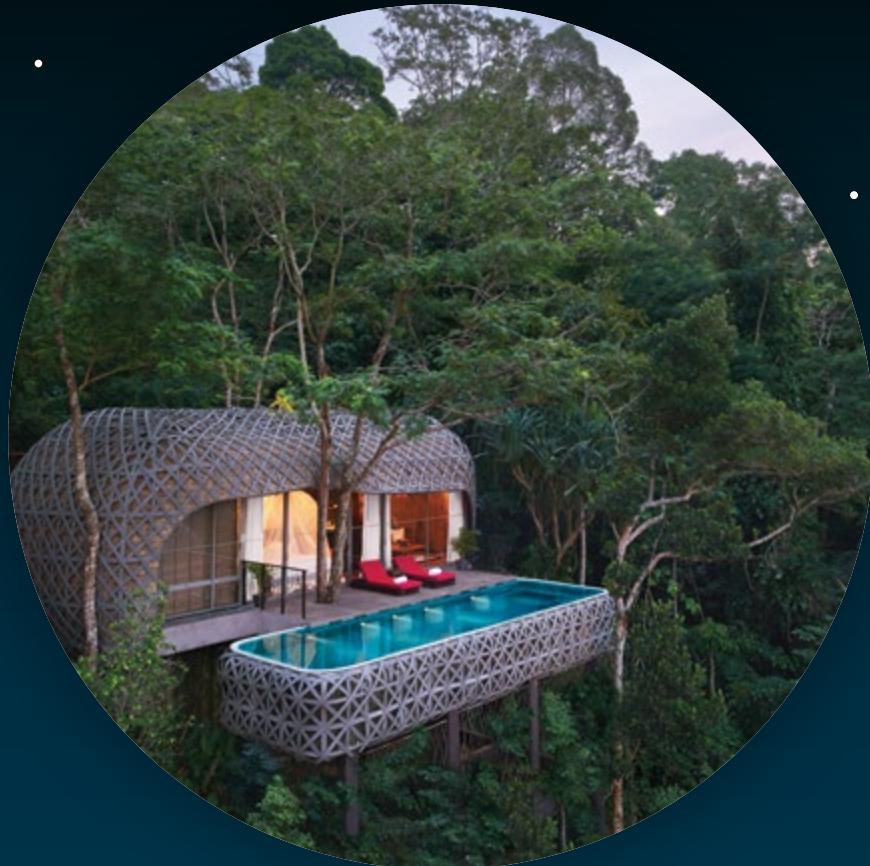
It doesn't stop there – the Smith24 team is available around the clock to help prove that anything's possible on the moon.

Here, then, are a few hand-picked favourites – with some true tales from the moon – to begin your exploration.

The moon is closer than you think...

Smith

JANUARY



**KEEMALA PHUKET, THAILAND**

FULL MOON



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Perfect for Village people; wannabe Hobbits; tribes in training.

When to go January in Phuket = very little rainfall and lower humidity. It's sunniest from November to March but warm all year round.

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Tales from the moon 'We loved our villa overlooking the rainforest – who wouldn't be wowed by swimming pools on stilts? Keemala's spa is amazing: eight treatment pods among the trees, plus a meditation cave. We had massages and tried raindrop therapies.'

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JANUARY



## SAFFIRE TASMANIA, AUSTRALIA

FULL MOON

**Perfect for** Wilderness wanderers; good-life gourmets; Instagram addicts.

**When to go** January is the height of the southern summer, but the sight of snow-topped Mount Wellington in winter (June to August) is one to remember.

**Tales from the moon** ‘We wanted to feel like we were retreating from the world – and we were not disappointed. Saffire is like nowhere else on earth (not least because there can’t be many hotels shaped like stingrays).’

Call **1800 464 2040** to start planning an out-of-this-world honeymoon

FEBRUARY



## AWASI PATAGONIA CHILE

FULL MOON



Perfect for Peace-seekers; amateur Attenboroughs.

When to go December–February is prime Patagonia time; it gets less crowded from late January.

Tales from the moon ‘It felt really special to know that people trek for days to see the Torres del Paine, yet we could spy on its dramatic peaks from our bed. Our private trips around the national park were like being guided by a brilliantly knowledgeable friend.’



## JICARO ISLAND ECOLODGE GRANADA, NICARAGUA

MINIMOON 

**Perfect for** Cool-hunting castaways; Tarzans in training; volcanic passion.

**When to go** Visitors in March can leave their brollies at home – rainy season starts in May. Nicaragua doesn't really do cold.

**Tales from the moon** ‘For a Bond-beating entrance, arrive by boat. We had dinner on the jetty: staff whisk you over, light a fire, serve the finest local fare, then leave you to it. This back-to-nature island base is as honeymoon-worthy as hotels get.’

MARCH



## AMAN VENICE ITALY

FULL MOON

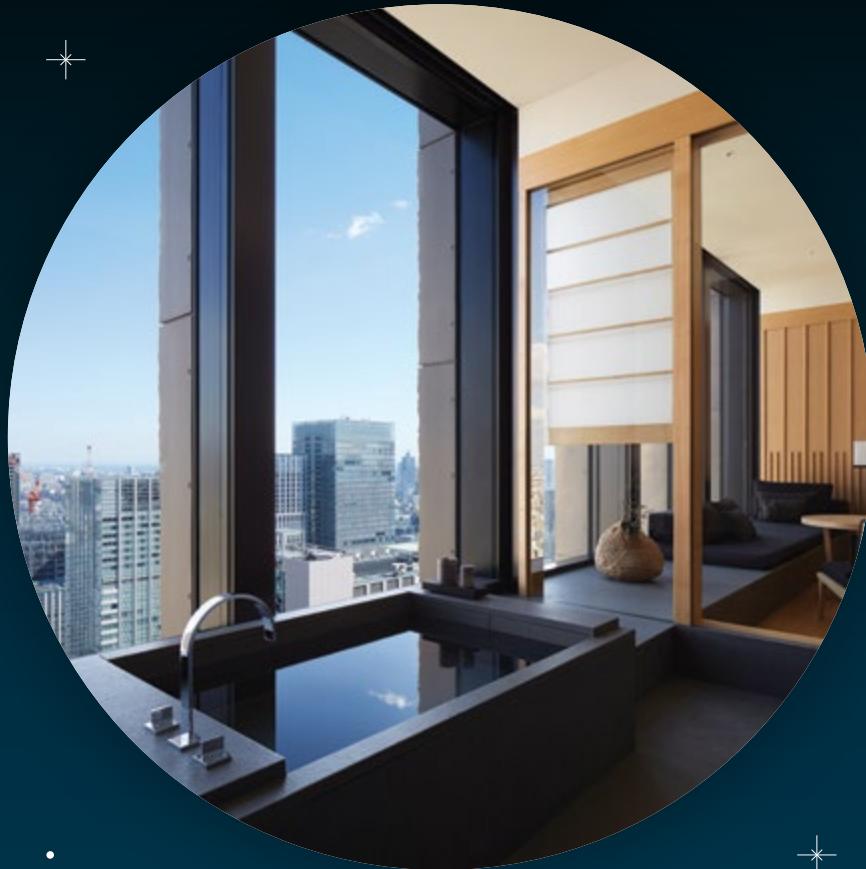


**Perfect for** Directors and their muses; linguine-lovers; canalside canoodlers.

**When to go** Skip February's Carnival chaos and come in milder March. Autumn and winter are suited to red wine and polenta consumption.

**Tales from the moon** 'Our room surveyed the canal, so we could relive our speedboat arrival. The secret garden is perfect for games of hide-and-kiss. Knowing your honeymoon hotel hosted Mr and Mrs Clooney's wedding adds a touch of glamour, too.'

MARCH



## AMAN TOKYO JAPAN

FULL MOON

**Perfect for** Spa-loving serenity seekers; globe-trotting gastronomes.

**When to go** Tokyo is a reliable year-round, but in the cool, dry and sunny springtime, the city's celebrated cherry blossoms burst into bloom.

**Tales from the moon** 'Seeing the city skyline sprawled before us from 33 floors up was amazing – we couldn't stop gazing out of the windows. The black afternoon tea was a real experience, and the onsen spa baths couldn't have been more soothing.'

Call **0330 100 3180** to start planning an out-of-this-world honeymoon

APRIL



## COQUI COQUI COBA RESIDENCE YUCATAN, MEXICO

MINIMOON 

**Perfect for** Spa-seekers; romantic recluses; Indiana Jones-ish types.

**When to go** Catch the tail-end of high season in April when the sun-worshipping throngs disperse. February is Carnival time in nearby Cozumel.

**Tales from the moon** ‘With its film-set scenery, this retreat-among-the-ruins will have you wondering if someone’s going to yell “Cut!” at any moment. Thankfully, there was no such distraction, just lagoon views aplenty, a peaceful spa and plenty of long, lazy ceviche lunches.’

APRIL



## G ROUGH ROME, ITALY

FULL MOON

**Perfect for** Ancient wonders; Baroque beauties; flights of Fellini fancy.

**When to go** The Eternal City's countless treasures are a year-round draw, but swerve crowd-filled summer with a Roman holiday in April.

**Tales from the moon** 'Our suite balanced Rome's bygone grandeur and artistic modernism beautifully. One evening we were treated to dinner *à deux* at a nearby private palazzo, cooked by a Cordon Bleu-trained chef and taken on a city-surveying terrace – *la dolce vita* indeed!'

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MAY



## BAROS THE MALDIVES

MAXIMOON 



Perfect for Wannabe Ariels and Neptunes; Jacques Cousteau and co.

When to go The Easter rush eases off by May; unsurprisingly, there's never a bad time to honeymoon in paradise (aka the Maldives).

Tales from the moon 'Make the most of Baros' expert dive team by spending a day underwater. We loved our Water Pool Villa with its four-poster day bed and steps leading to the lagoon. Don't miss private-island picnics and trips on the glass-bottomed kayak.'

MAY



## DUNTON HOT SPRINGS SAN JUAN MOUNTAINS, COLORADO

MINIMOON 

**Perfect for** Off-grid adventures; spa-lazy days and stargazey nights.

**When to go** As the weather warms up, enjoy summer pursuits such as hiking, biking, rafting and riding. Winter has it's own magic (and skiing).

**Tales from the moon** 'It's a wonderfully secret and secluded spot, with the great American wilderness in every direction; a Wild West ghost town transformed into a village of private wooden cabins. We had the Well House, so we had a hot spring to ourselves – simply spectacular.'

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JUNE



## TSALA TREETOP LODGE GARDEN ROUTE, SOUTH AFRICA

MAXIMOON ●●

Perfect for Back-to-nature bliss; among-the-leaves lazing.

When to go Guaranteed rays and verdant valleys – June is postcard perfect. July–November is best for whale-spotting nearby.

Tales from the moon ‘When we did manage to drag ourselves away from our canopy-surveying, plunge-pool-toting suite, we visited some national treasures at Knysna Elephant Park and went sampling around the Winelands – the perfect honeymoon location.’



## FINCA CORTESIN MARBELLA, SPAIN

FULL MOON

**Perfect for** Spoiling surrounds; fit-for-royalty pampering.

**When to go** With 320 days of sun, there's not much in the way of bad weather. June, though, guarantees a summer scorch with fewer crowds.

**Tales from the moon** 'Glamorous grounds, stylish suites and food to fall in love with – we were sat at the table right next to the open kitchen at Kabuki Raw so we could watch Señor Olarra in action as he prepared an unbelievably good Japanese feast.'

JULY



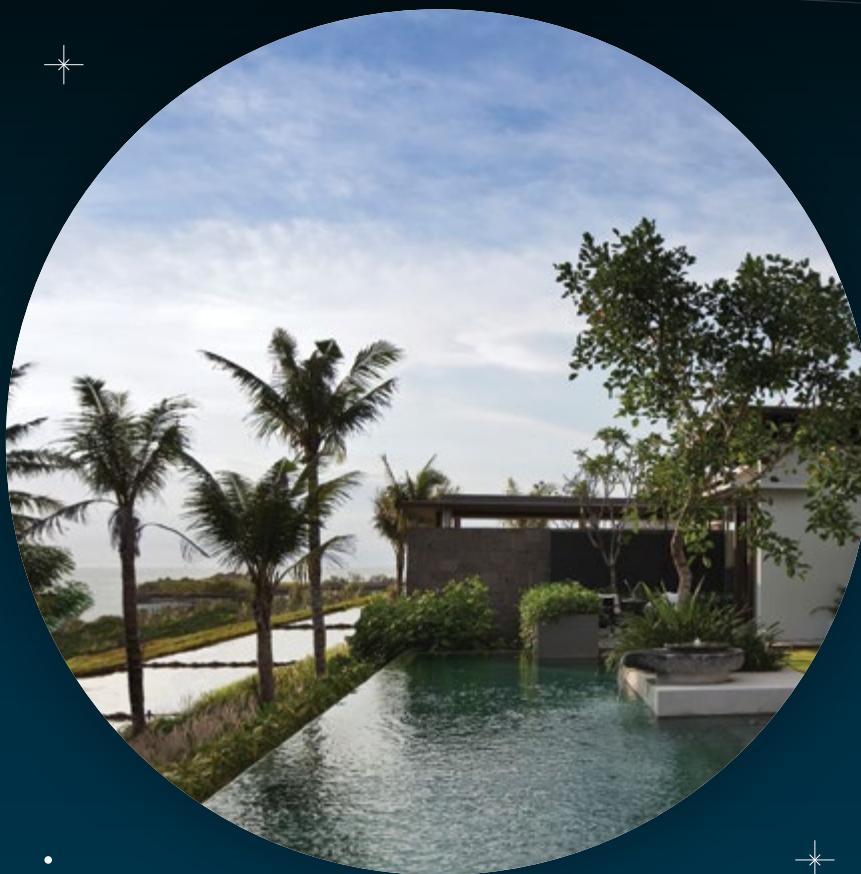
## SIX SENSES DOURO VALLEY SAMODAES, PORTUGAL

FULL MOON 

Perfect for Grape-smudged smooching; alchemical romances; spiritual highs.

When to go On summer Saturdays, flit between Régua and Tua on a steam train. Autumn and winter are for cycling and hiking (or red wine and fires).

Tales from the moon ‘We loved meeting local winemakers on our winery tour and thanks to our wellness workshop at the Alchemy Bar, we’ll be bottling our own lotions back home. Be bold and try aerial yoga.’



## ALILA VILLAS SOORI BALI

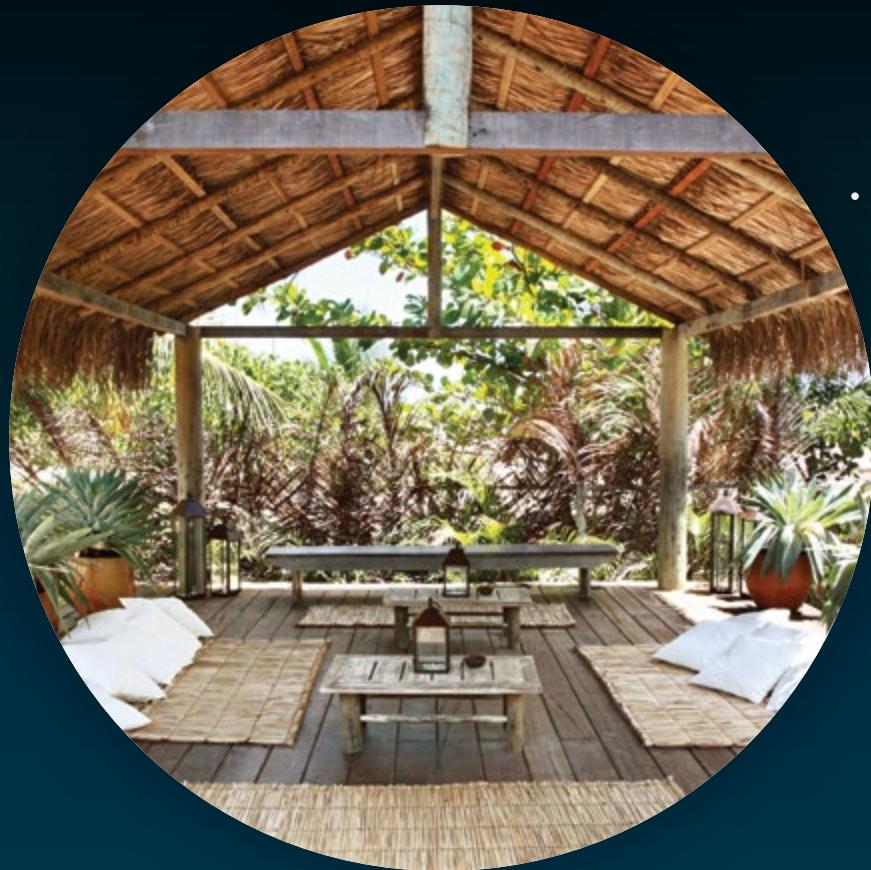
FULL MOON

**Perfect for** Sun-kissed sanctuary; temple-touring tranquillity.

**When to go** Bali bustles in balmy August but the volcanic-sand shores and jade-green rice paddies of Tabanan offer welcome respite all year.

**Tales from the moon** 'We were treated to an oh-so-romantic meal on the shores of the black-sand beach, perfectly timed so we caught the evening exodus of local fruit bats in all its glory.'

AUGUST



**UXUA CASA BAHIA, BRAZIL**

FULL MOON



Perfect for Paradise with personality; boho beach life.

When to go Bahia's winter is sunny and sedate, and you won't have to jostle for beach space. For Carnival fun, visit December – February.

Tales from 'The treetop Casa da Arvore suite – fringed by jungle, with an outdoor hot tub, hammock and a thatched veranda – might just be the moon the most heart-stealing hideaway on earth.'

AUGUST



## POST RANCH INN BIG SUR, CALIFORNIA

MINIMOON 

**Perfect for** Rocky romances; fiery nights; spa aaahs.

**When to go** Big Sur summers are lovely – a bit foggy in the mornings, clearing by the afternoon. Spring and autumn hardly disappoint, mind.

**Tales from the moon** ‘What better way to kick off married life than by cruising down Highway 1 with the top down? Once you’ve parked up, try surf and turf at Post Ranch’s restaurant and floral treatments at the spa.’

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SEPTEMBER



## WICKANINNISH INN VANCOUVER ISLAND, CANADA

MINIMOON 



**Perfect for** Wildlife watchers, nature walkers, modern mariners.

**When to go** The lingering summer sun in September makes perfect conditions for barefoot beach walks or forest hikes through the Pacific Rim National Park.

**Tales from the moon** ‘With that vista of the Pacific, it was impossible to do anything but gawp. That’s what the Wick does best: artfully framing the most spectacular scenery so that – despite the fact you’re cossetted in luxury – the raw power of the great outdoors is close enough to touch.’

SEPTEMBER



## ICONIC SANTORINI SANTORINI, GREECE

FULL MOON

**Perfect for** Sailors, sunbathers and shameless, do-nothing layabouts.

**When to go** By September the school-holiday crowd has cleared off and the sea has had all summer to warm up. May, June and October are good if you prefer milder weather.

**Tales from the moon** 'It was a blissfully lazy blur of sunset cocktails, caldera-view balcony breakfasts, morning boat trips and afternoons flitting between saltwater pool and Jacuzzi. And there's something indescribably romantic about sleeping in a cave'

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OCTOBER



## SIX SENSES ZIGHY BAY MUSANDAM, OMAN

MAXIMOON 

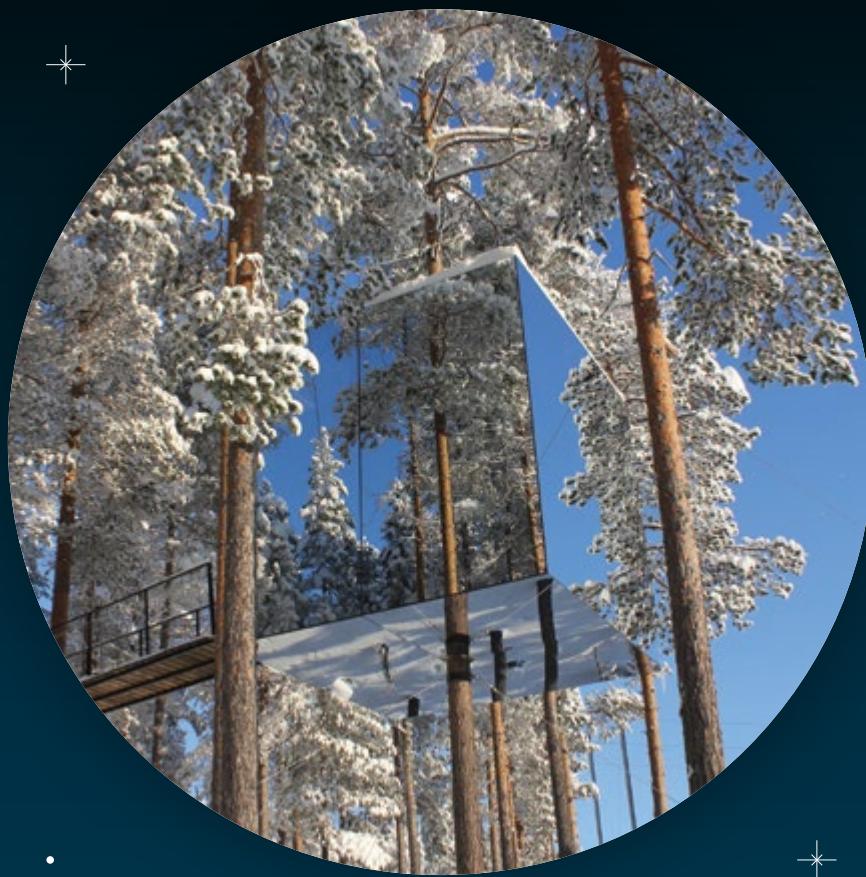


Perfect for Adrenalin addicts; off-the-beaten-track-ers.

When to go To make the most of the adventures on offer, you'll want to avoid the height of summer – October to April is the perfect window.

Tales from the moon ‘There aren’t many places where you can arrive by speedboat, 4x4 or paraglider... Once you’ve landed, prepare to have your breath taken again and again by the bay-view bedrooms, the cliff-carved restaurant, the private stretch of beach, the countless excursions...’

OCTOBER



## TREEHOTEL NORRBOTTEN COUNTY, SWEDEN

FULL MOON

**Perfect for** Big kids; aspiring Ewoks; woodland wanderers.

**When to go** October gives you a forest full of autumnal hues and you won't need so many thermals. For snow-based fun, aim for winter.

**Tales from the moon** 'Treks through lush forest, husky-drawn sled rides, rustic Nordic cuisine, a peek at the Northern Lights – all that, and you get to repair to a giant, top-notch treehouse after your exertions. This place is beyond unique and makes for amazing memories.'

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NOVEMBER



**GOLDENEYE HOTEL & RESORT JAMAICA**

MINIMOON 



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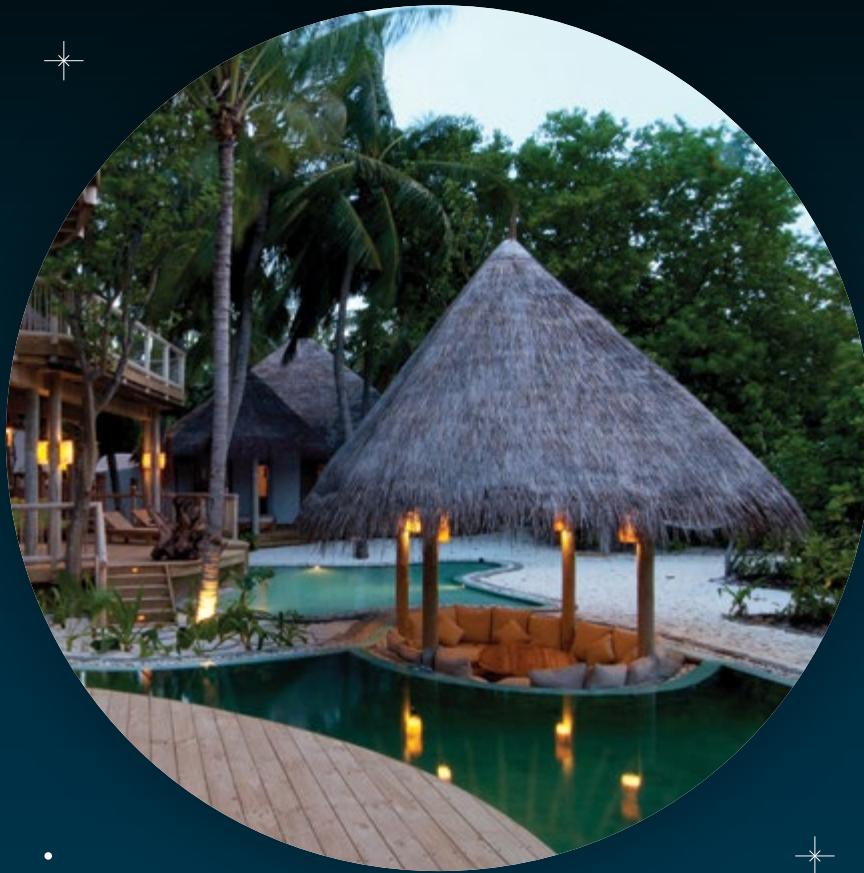
**Perfect for** Bond villains (and their cats); buffalo soldiers; irie idlers.

**When to go** Bypass the end of hurricane season (November) and enjoy calmer skies. Rainy season (May and October) is also a popular time to visit.

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**Tales from the moon** ‘Magic moments included galloping on horseback through the waves at Chukka Cove, before cooling off with a refreshing swim and a long, lazy lunch on the sand. Ian Fleming wrote bestsellers here; we were too lazy to lift a pen.’

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## SONEVA FUSHI THE MALDIVES

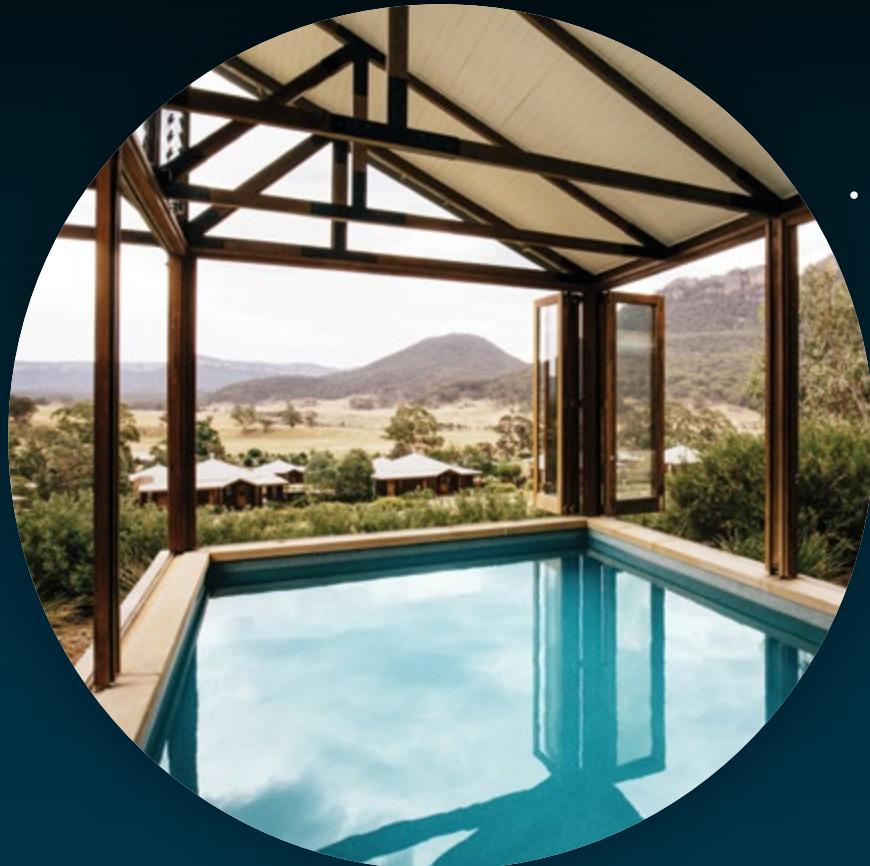
MAXIMOON ●●

**Perfect for** Befriending dolphins; inciting Instagram envy.

**When to go** There's never really a bad time – even in monsoon season (May–October), you shouldn't expect more than a few days' rain.

**Tales from the moon** 'In a honeymoon full of "best bits", our desert-island picnic stood out. We were dropped off with a hamper; at the touch of a button, staff picked us up. The hotel has telescopes so you can stargaze and spy on Jupiter.'

DECEMBER



## EMIRATES ONE&ONLY WOLGAN VALLEY AUSTRALIA

MAXIMOON ●●



**Perfect for** Discerning bushcrafters; wildlife spotters.

**When to go** The cooling climate of the Blue Mountains makes for a refreshing mid-summer retreat. Here, Yulefest is literally Christmas in July.

**Tales from the moon** ‘We came for some true R ’n’ R, and this place delivers in very big spades. We could’ve lost days to the soothing spa, but we did at least manage a horse ride through the beautiful bushland.’

**TWIN FARMS VERMONT, NEW ENGLAND**MINIMOON 

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**Perfect for** Outdoor explorers; artistic temperaments; snow bunnies.

**When to go** Ski trails make Twin Farms a winter wonder in December, but canoe trips down the river ensure it's a June contender too.

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**Tales from the moon** 'What a wonderful blend of down-to-earth atmosphere and sky's-the-limit attitude. Days on the slopes, nights by the fire – and the odd trip to the Japanese hot tub.'

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