

[ THE WORLD'S BEST ]

# HOTEL SUITES

From gold-plated taps to your own boat, hotel suites have always been a decadent indulgence. Whether you want lavish style or barefoot luxury, these global treats offer once-in-a-lifetime experiences.

BY GEORGINA WILSON-POWELL



CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: Private Reserve, Gili Lankanfushi, Maldives; The Faena Suite, Faena Hotel, USA; Ty Warner Suite, Four Seasons New York; Space Suite, Kameha Grand Zurich, Switzerland.



## 1 PRIVATE RESERVE, GILI LANKANFUSHI, MALDIVES

The world's largest over-water villa can be found at the award-winning Gili Lankanfushi in the Maldives. Only accessible by boat, this 1,700sqm villa is more like its own private island, with over-the-water walkways linking the enormous bedrooms, library, cinema room and spa. There's also room for two live-in butlers (or nannies, security etc), and your personal chef, who will whip up Michelin-standard meals (using ingredients from the island's own organic garden) and a wine cellar. Kids will love the

water slide from the top deck into the lagoon too and there's a 63sqm freshwater pool in case you somehow grow bored of the sensational snorkelling. [gili-lankanfushi.com](http://gili-lankanfushi.com)

## 2 FAENA SUITE, FAENA HOTEL, USA

Miami's much-hyped new Faena District is home to the flagship Faena Hotel, a riot of colour, designs and influences. The Faena Suite (designed by *The Great Gatsby* director, Baz Luhrmann) has four master bedrooms, five bathrooms and the oceanfront views to die for

across 330sqm. This is nothing short of proper old-fashioned glamour – think luxurious fabrics, rich colour schemes and a dedicated butler. A full-service kitchen and two dining areas means you can stay in in style – we'd recommend lounging on one of the four balconies and sipping a cocktail as the sun sets. [faena.com](http://faena.com)

## 3 SPACE SUITE, KAMEHA GRAND ZURICH, SWITZERLAND

Get out of this world at the unique Space Suite at the Kameha Grand Zurich, designed by German artist Michael Najjar, who hopes to be the first artist in space. This futuristic suite is all space-station chic, complete with a zero-gravity bed that's hidden behind light-reflecting foil. The mirror-covered 'living module' redefines your sense of perception, while the bathroom has a view as if looking down on Earth. Astral motifs include pictures from the Hubble telescope woven into the carpet and a light installation above the bath that captures the surface of Saturn's moon Enceladus. Najjar's own space artwork completes the suite. It truly is something dazzling. [lieblingsplatz.com](http://lieblingsplatz.com) ▶



**4 CASA LAGUNA, ROSEWOOD MAYAKOBA, MEXICO**

This will redefine your idea of a suite. A modernist two-storey villa (605sqm) with a roof terrace, Casa Laguna will sleep six but comes with its own staff of five (including a chef and your own boat captain). The open-plan living and dining room look over a picturesque lagoon, there's a media room, heated plunge pools, and a private pool to keep you occupied at home, or if you fancy something more active, a fitness instructor is on hand, as are private boat tours with a biologist to explore the 1,600-acre resort that straddles verdant Mexican jungle with chic beaches.

[rosewoodhotels.com](http://rosewoodhotels.com)

**5 TY WARNER SUITE, FOUR SEASONS NEW YORK**

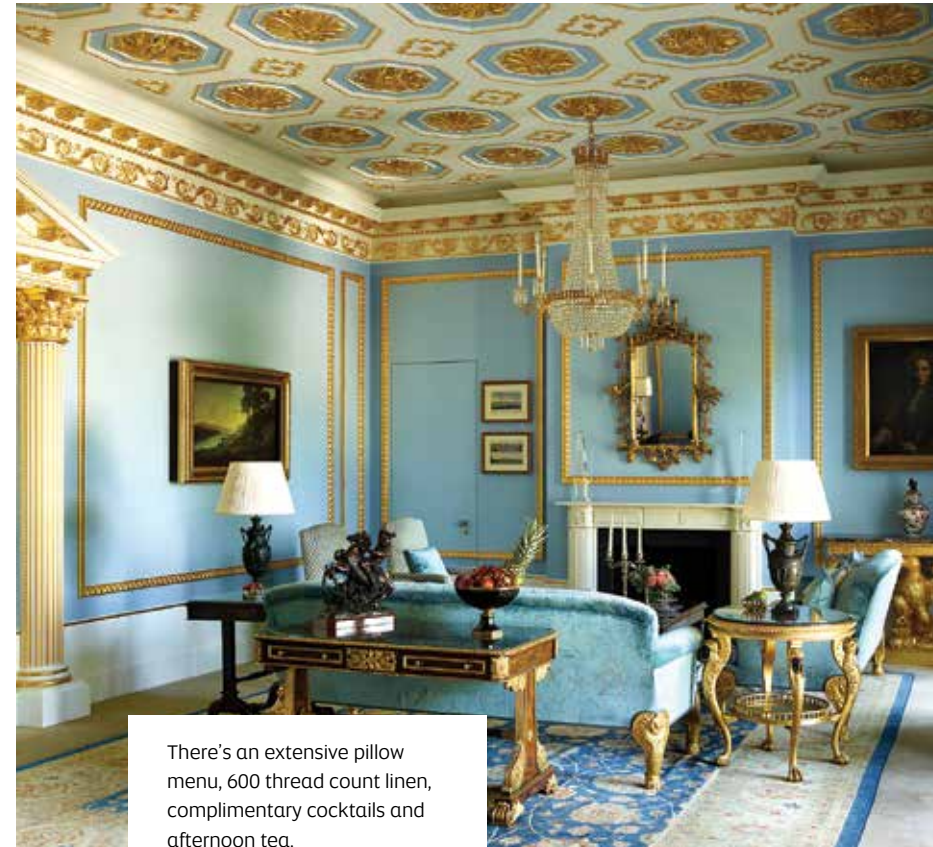
You know a suite is pretty special when it has been designed by architectural doyen IM Pei (who came out of retirement to complete it). Overlooking Manhattan, this is New York's

most expensive penthouse, sitting 200m up. Enjoy those iconic Central Park views from one of four cantilevered glass balconies, which are the highest in the world. And the 400sqm inside is no less impressive with its own stellar art gallery, selected by Pei and Peter Marino, a grand piano and your own library. It's not just the architecture and art you'll be spoilt with. How about unlimited caviar, Champagne and massages for the duration of your stay? Thought so. Also at your disposal is a chauffeur driven Rolls-Royce Phantom, and a round-the-clock butler.

[fourseasons.com](http://fourseasons.com)

**6 REVERIE ROMANCE SUITE, THE REVERIE, HO CHI MINH CITY**

Vietnam's most prestigious hotel, The Reverie's suites are simply magical. Pick one of the palatial Romance suites, whose 313sqm are filled with unique Italian furnishings from some of the country's best houses such as Colombo Stile and Visionnaire. Lavish gold, Baroque and modern styles all have their places here. As do amazing views over the iconic Saigon river (this is the highest suite in the city). But it's not just the size and the stylish decor here, each suite comes with its own butler (trained by the British Butler School) and you have access to a fleet of luxury cars including a million-dollar limited-edition Rolls-Royce Phantom Dragon. We also love the little touches.



There's an extensive pillow menu, 600 thread count linen, complimentary cocktails and afternoon tea.

[thereveriesaigon.com](http://thereveriesaigon.com)

**7 ROYAL VILLA, SONG SAA, CAMBODIA**

Proving luxury can be sustainable is the cute Cambodian private island resort of Song Saa, in the warm Gulf of Thailand. Think jungle chic, the twin islands provide a stunning backdrop to what is a sanctuary of calm. The island's Royal Villa is a lavish floating hideaway that features two bedrooms, an oversized sunken bath, private outdoor terrace and pool. The emphasis is on natural materials (including timber recycled from old fishing boats) and hand-crafted furniture made locally. A private jetty means you can come and go without being seen, and you've the best spot on the island for taking in a spectacular sunset – which is the best time to make use of your own in-villa bar and its (essential) mojito-making station.

[songsaa.com](http://songsaa.com)

**8 PRESIDENTIAL SUITE, PARK BOSPHORUS ISTANBUL, TURKEY**

Turkey's largest Presidential suite can be found at Park Bosphorus Istanbul hotel and has wonderful views over the iconic waterway. Favoured by dignitaries and stars, it includes a huge dining room and kitchen, a piano hall and private spa, plus there's a range of security features, including bulletproof glass. Lavishly decorated (22-carat gold taps, anyone?), two extra suites can be joined to it to create an enormous private space for large families. And, of course, a butler and chef are on hand night and day, so you can entertain or relax with ease.

[cukhotelsandresorts.com](http://cukhotelsandresorts.com)

**9 ROYAL SUITE, THE LANESBOROUGH, UK**

The Lanesborough's Royal Suite is currently London's most



**10 GRAND RIAD, ROYAL MANSOUR, MOROCCO**

expensive, and this Regency-inspired seven-bedroom stay was completely refurbished last year with extensive and charming period detail. Located in one of the most prestigious addresses in London, enter through double doors and take in the views of Buckingham Palace Gardens through the floor-to-ceiling windows before taking tea in the resplendent turquoise and gold sitting room. While the rooms look like a 19th-century boudoir, their features can be controlled by tablet and there's an integrated entertainment system. Butlers and chefs are on hand, should you choose to use the 12-person mahogany dining table.

[thelanesborough.com](http://thelanesborough.com)

Royal Mansour brings back the elegant luxury of a Golden Age in Marrakesh. Your own private Moroccan palace, a three-storey riad sits around a beautiful central courtyard with a retractable roof – the Grand Riad is the largest one-bedroom version. Take in the exotic views of the Medina from your private roof terrace, complete with a majlis tent, lounge by the plunge pool or host parties with your own bar, sitting room and dining room. You'll feel like a king here, with each room stunningly decorated in rich Moroccan tiles, fabrics and colours, while the legendary 24-hour butler service (travelling via underground tunnels) attends to any whims or desires.

[royalmansour.com](http://royalmansour.com) ■

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Casa Laguna Villa, Rosewood Mayakoba; The Lanesborough Royal Suite; Grand Riad, Royal Mansour, Morocco; Reverie Romance Suite, Ho Chi Minh City; Presidential Suite, Park Istanbul; Royal Villa, Song Saa, Cambodia.

