





## WITHOUT PEER

It's taken two years, but after a massive restoration the Pera Palace Hotel reopened in late 2010 - the latest chapter in a story which has been part of Istanbul history since 1892. The challenge was to integrate all the modern technology which is an integral part of any luxury hotel into the grandeur of the original design and decoration of this iconic building.

With the Pera Palace's designation as a 'museum hotel' the exotic enchantment of Istanbul is enhanced by the hotel's historical involvement with the turbulent switch from Ottoman rule ... aahhhh the romance! perapalace.com



## Sri Lanka

Widely predicted to be one of the hot spots for international travel, Sri Lanka is adding to its natural charms with the recent opening of the extensively renovated Avani Benota Resort and Spa. Formerly the Hotel Serendib Benota, the new look hotel offers relaxed comfort and contemporary style including three bars and two restaurants, and retains the signature style of celebrated architect Geoffrey Bawa, combined with an inimitable Dutch Colonial charm, avanihotels.com



## **COMING UP**

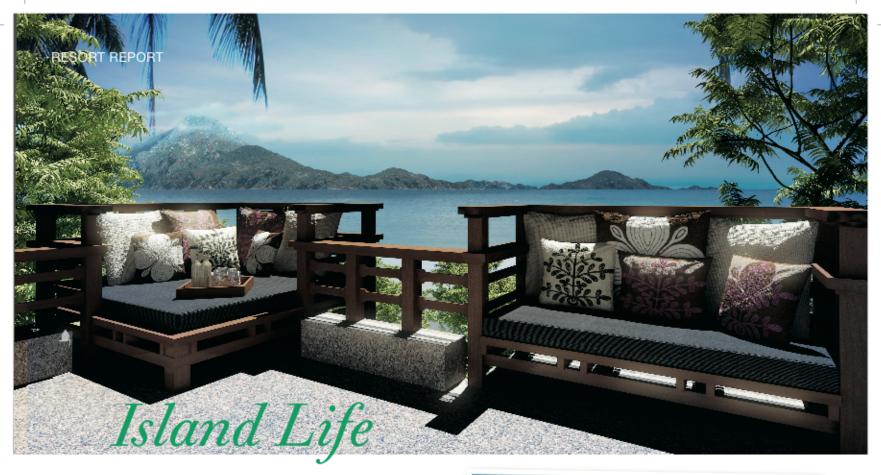
Set to open in early 2012 is the Anantara Sanya Resort & Spa in Hainan, China, a luxury resort flanked by two beaches, and located in the serene Luhuitou Peninsula on the southern most point of Hainan Island. sanya.anantara.com

It doesn't get much more secluded than

The Berkeley River, 150 kilometres
from Wyndham in Western Australia and
is accessible only by air and water. You'll be
surrounded by the silence of one of the most
remote places in Australia, and lapped in luxury
in the twenty oceanview suites. The Berkeley
River opens soon. berkeleyriver.com.au

And if you're looking for luxury, the Mulia at Nusa Dua in Bali is the place to bliss out. A stunning beach frontage and superbly designed accommodations are complemented by sophisticated dining options and chilled out bar. themulia.com

HolidaysForCouples.com.au



Located just off the coast of Kota Kinabalu and set on the shores of Pulau Gaya, the largest island in the Tunku Abdul Rahman Marine Park, Gaya Island Resort offers the perfect launching pad to discover Borneo and all that it has to offer; idyllic golden sand beaches, diving sites of spectacular underwater havens and untouched tropical rainforests, offering a home to many rare species, including the orangutan, the proboscis monkey and the pygmy elephant. There will be a vast array of activities to satisfy each adventure, nature and water enthusiast while experiencing Sabah's colorful culture.

Gaya Island Resort's PURE program integrates local culture and the natural environment, offering a range of cultural activities and tours from jungle treks and trails through the natural tropical landscape, marine excursions, and water activities with expert guides, including the resident Naturalist and Marine Biologist. Other activities on offer include scuba diving, island hopping and Mount Kinabalu expeditions, as well as canoeing and paddle surfing. Or you can escape to Tavajun Bay, a private enclave where guests will be able to luxuriate in the pristine aquamarine waters surrounded by lush tropical rainforest.

For those who prefer a more indulgent holistic experience, YTL Hotels' award-winning Spa Village will offer treatments, therapies and healing practices specific to Borneo culture and will be uniquely designed within a mangrove setting offering six treatment rooms with outdoor decks and a yoga retreat space.

Gaya Island Resort will incorporate elements of Sabahan architecture and contemporary design complete with modern amenities and WiFi capabilities. It will comprise 121 spacious stand-alone hill and sea-front villas offering spectacular views of majestic Mount Kinabalu. The luxury resort will offer a selection of dining options plus a Pool Bar Lounge and a 50-metre infinity swimming pool which will provide the ideal place to relax while taking in the picturesque views of Mount Kinabalu from a unique upper deck. The resort is easily accessible from Kota Kinabalu International Airport and is a short 30 minute combined car and speedboat ride from the airport.

Gaya Island Resort, Borneo is due to open in July 2012. For reservations and enquiries, visit www.ytlhotels.com





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