

# Robb Report

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## THE TRAVEL ISSUE

21 TOP TRIPS  
FOR 2017

### FEATURING

CARIBBEAN BLISS IN THE CAYMAN ISLANDS  
SAFARI TO SAND IN TANZANIA  
CUBA BY SUPERYACHT  
BASKING ON BILLIONAIRE'S BEACH  
RIVER TO RAILS IN PERU  
MASTER CHEFS IN MELBOURNE & MORE

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# THE TOP 21 TRIPS FOR 2017.

From an around-the-world culinary crusade to a Maldivian surfing safari, *Robb Report* presents the most exciting jaunts, journeys, and adventures for the year ahead.



## Quiet Time in the Yucatán.

**No. 11** **THE MEGARESORTS OF** Mexico's Riviera Maya are making way for more intimate options up and down the region's sparkling Caribbean coastline. **Hotel Esencia** (hotelesencia.com) underwent an inspired renovation after its acquisition by the American art collector Kevin Wendle, emerging with 29 art- and light-filled rooms located along what is arguably the area's best beach. The update included the addition of two villas that have their own private stretches of sand and can together accommodate groups from eight to 22 people. New villas are also taking shape at **Rosewood Mayakoba** (rosewoodhotels.com), which in November added eight multi-bedroom residences—ranging from 8,000 to 20,000 square feet—to its collection of 130 lagoon and oceanfront suites. Just next door, **Andaz Mayakoba** (andaz.hyatt.com) was scheduled at press time for an end-of-2016 debut. The 214-room resort, which is set on 590 acres of beach and jungle, includes 41 suites with plunge pools. Those in need of a break after all that beach and pool time can head inland to the new **Chablé** (chablersort.com), a 40-villa, 750-acre destination spa where “shamanism meets luxury” in the jungle outside Mérida. —B.W.

Right: *Crystal Esprit* takes passengers to the Eden-like beaches of the Seychelles islands. Below, from top: Andaz Mayakoba; Hotel Esencia.



## Setting Sail in the Seychelles.

**No. 12** **THERE'S A NEW WAY** to experience the Seychelles islands—and it's 65 feet underwater. Seated in a U-Boat C Explorer 3, travelers can venture below the Indian Ocean's surface, scuttling alongside neon fusiliers and black-and-white-striped sergeant majors. The flying-saucer-like submersible darts in and out of coral clusters and speeds past streaks of pink, blue, and green before returning to the mothership: Crystal Cruises' new **Crystal Esprit** (crystalcruises.com).

Long a leader in luxury ocean cruising, Crystal ushered in a new era with last winter's launch of the *Esprit*. The yacht is part of an ambitious plan that calls for everything from riverboats in Europe to a private jet for around-the-world journeys. The 31-suite *Esprit*—which will spend January through March island-hopping in the

