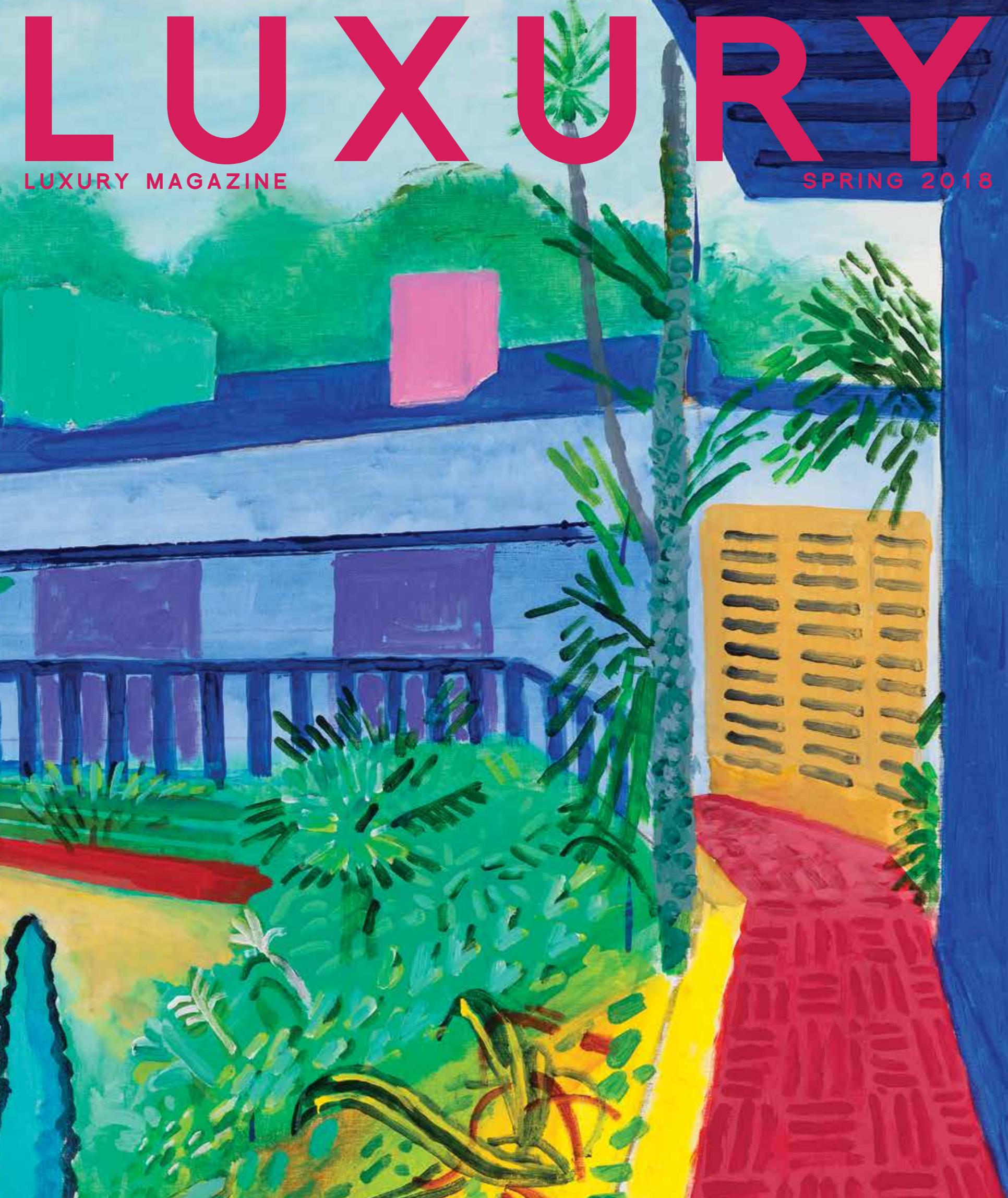


# LUXURY

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# ROCK STARS

*Six design-forward spas, fittingly hewn into the most extraordinary landscapes, offer more than rehab and recovery.*



Anantara Spa at Anantara  
Al Jabal Al Akhdar Resort  
in Nizwa, Oman

## Chablé Spa YUCATÁN, MEXICO

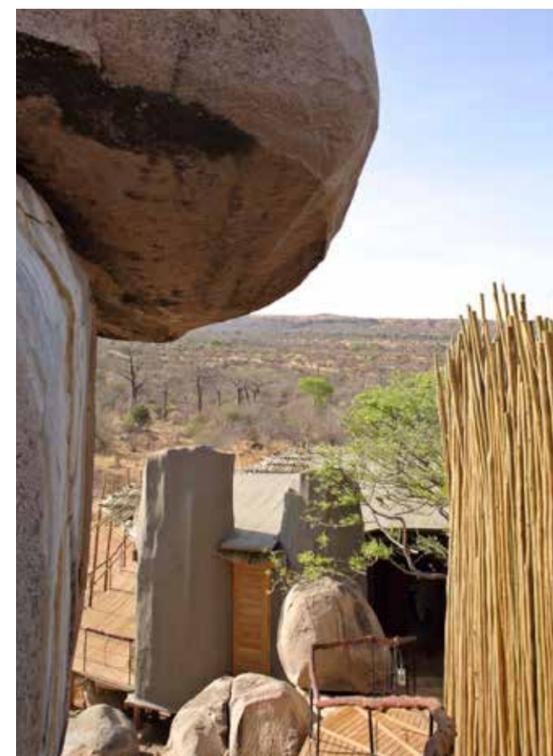
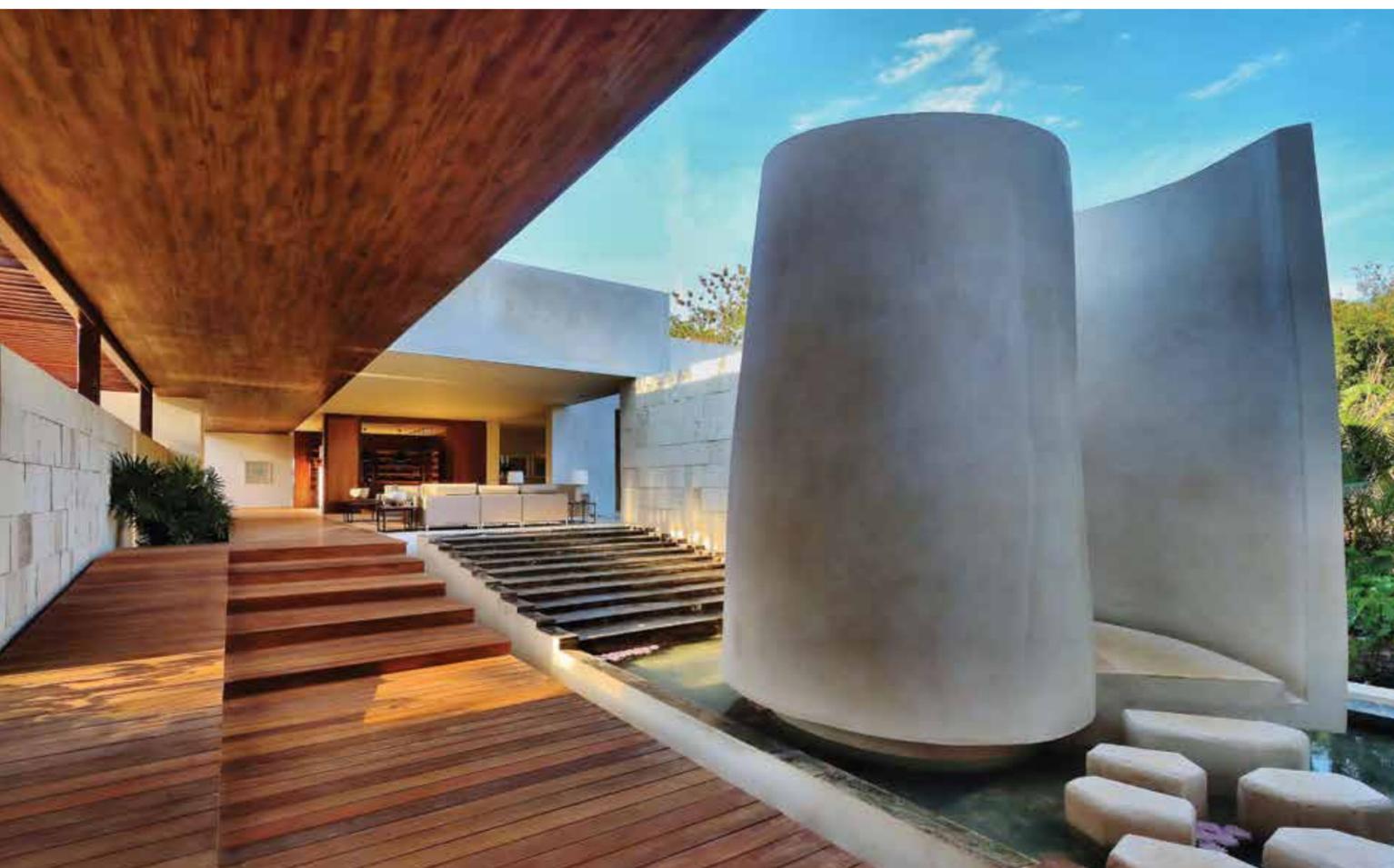
A 40-room retreat on 750 acres in the middle of a Mayan forest.



The spa here was designed around—of all things—a sinkhole. Murky and green, the spot, according to architect Jorge Borja, is the heart of the property. The collapsed cenote, one of thousands on the Yucatán Peninsula, is considered a sacred site and source of restoration for the body and soul. Mayans believed cenotes to be portals to the subconscious and afterlife, and a way to communicate with their gods. At Chablé, most of the 15 minimalist, standalone treatment rooms look out over the sacred place. “The intention of the treatment rooms was to feel like they existed before as part of the trees, or tree houses, all without tearing down a single tree,” explains Borja.

The 32,000-square-foot facility, complete with a state-of-the-art gym and hydrotherapy circuit (vapor steam room, dry sauna, salt room, Jacuzzi, and cool plunge pool), makes the most of the temperate climate, with many outdoor seating areas, secluded nooks for meditation, and a large, cement shell where guests consult the spa’s shaman.

**TREATMENT TO TRY** Following a consultation, spa-goers are directed to a three-hour Spa Journey to address their individual needs. The Fountain of Youth Journey begins at the water’s edge of the restorative cenote and continues in a Flotarium tank. Then a salt scrub is followed with a lymphatic drainage massage and aromatherapy ritual. Body, beauty, and ceremonial rituals can also be booked à la carte. [chablesort.com](http://chablesort.com) —Rima Suqi



## Asilia Spa at Jabali Ridge RUAHA NATIONAL PARK, TANZANIA

New safari camp hidden among gigantic boulders and elephant and lion haunts.

Tanzania’s largest national park—roughly the size of New Jersey—is the country’s least-known protected area. The park lacked a solid safari lodge to lure high-end travelers until the eight-suite Asilia Jabali Ridge opened in September 2017. Among Ruaha’s prolific wildlife and boulder-and-baobab-dotted landscapes, a striking spa is cast across the apex of a rocky outcrop and sheltered by granite boulders. Open-air treatment areas situate spa-goers among the songs of African nature as dexterous therapists lure them to a sleepy state of relaxation. A word to the wise: Sleep with one eye open—Ruaha houses one-tenth of the world’s lion population and visiting prides in excess of 20 are nothing out of the ordinary.

**TREATMENT TO TRY** Work out kinks from bumpy, exhilarating game drives with a 90-minute African Wood Massage. The deep-tissue treatment incorporates heated wood instruments and nourishing shea butter. [asiliaafrica.com](http://asiliaafrica.com) —P.R. >