GOLF

The best places to play and stay on planet golf

2017/2018





**GF:** €96-€180 per round (depending on the season with reduced rates for hotel guests) If you've yet to visit the French Riviera, here's an extra reason to book a trip to south-east France - in fact, two reasons, for Terre Blanche Resort, 45 minutes from Nice airport, is home to two wonderful championship courses, both designed by Dave Thomas.

Le Château is the sterner test, stretching to over 7,000 yards,



and is a popular venue for the European Senior Tour's French Riviera Masters. Competitors will testify that this is a magnificent course, featuring a variety of perfectly manicured holes that thread through mature trees, flirting with a number of attractive water hazards on the way. Length is advantageous, but it's a course that requires great strategy and precise iron play.

Each hole is memorable and it speaks volumes that to pick one as a standout is difficult. The

par-3 2nd is a contender, playing uphill along a rocky creek, as are the 11th, with its elevated tee and mountain view, and the par-3 16th where a walled stream guards the green and an amphitheatre of trees provides a stirring backdrop.

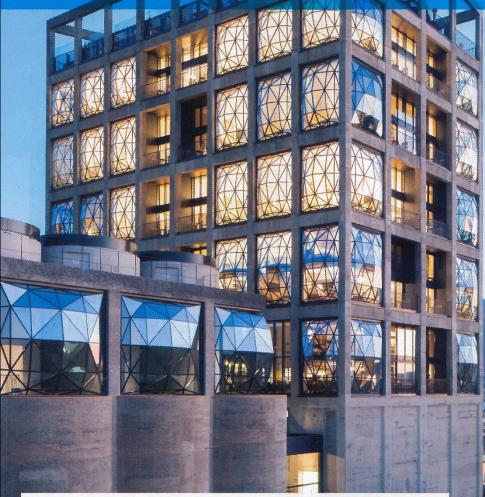
Then there's the stern par-5 6th that plays towards the Château after which the course is named. The changes in elevation create a dramatic layout, and one you'll certainly want to revisit. Le Riou course provides a slightly shorter, yet no less entertaining, test.



# INTERNATIONAL NEWS

London hotspots set their sights overseas as world-class museums open in the US and South Africa





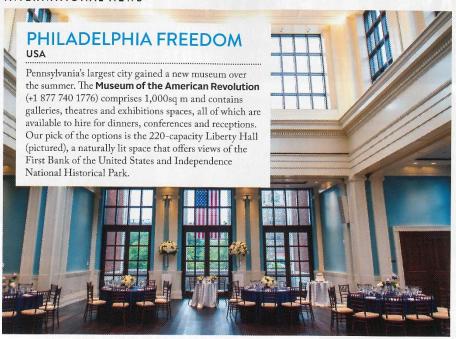
## MODERN LOVE

SOUTH AFRICA

Cape Town's Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art Africa (+27 82 384 9233), is already being hailed as 'Africa's Tate Modern'. Housed inside a converted 1920s grain silo, the museum was designed by Thomas Heatherwick, the man behind London's 2012 Olympic Cauldron. No question, the cathedral-like architecture of the Zeitz MOCAA is pretty impressive. Gucci certainly thinks so: the fashion house threw a pre-opening party there, bringing in a temporary dancefloor where guests partied beneath a giant rubber flying dragon, one of the exhibits in the 500-capacity, 33m-high Atrium (inset). On level six, the 200-capacity restaurant space is the spot for gala dinners. It overlooks a rooftop sculpture garden, has 270° views of Cape Town and faces Table Mountain. There's also a Silo hotel (on the six floors above the museum), a co-working space and a rooftop pool where those views doubtless get even better.







## A little incentive // Provence

Wine tasting, helicopter rides and Michelin-starred gastronomy: fivestar Terre Blanche on the Cote d'Azur is an incentive group's heaven

hen Sean Connery bought the estate in 1979, he wanted to build his dream golf course. His dream never came to fruition; lucky for incentive groups though, its next owner changed the landscape of Terre Blanche to include two 18-holers - one of which can be booked for groups of 120.

Struck by the resemblance of the 750-acre estate to a Provençal hillside village, we're taken straight to our villas (of which there are 115). If you've got your top performer staying then it's the exclusive Terre Blanche Villa that'll make them feel special: the 300sq m retreat comes complete with a private pool and jacuzzi.

You could stay on site for entertaining - a splash in the infinity pool and a massage at the spa deserve a day in themselves. Top of the roster of restaurants is Michelin-starred La Faventia. This is where contemporary gastronomy is done serious justice; the delicate blue lobster with Thai spices, and striking white chocolate ganache with cacao biscuit and Kriek (cherry) beer will remain with us for a while.

It's offsite where you'll find the wine. The hotel works with surrounding vineyards to create tourand-tasting experiences for groups. Our favourite is Chateau d' Esclans, best known for its production of Whispering Angel rosé. Vineyard and winery tours are followed by tastings of the pink stuff as well as the estate's other vintages. Got some thrill seekers to entertain? Get the TB team to organise a helicopter ride, buggy tours or glider experiences - that'll soon sober them up.





VITAL STATISTICS Fly into Nice Transfer in 45 minutes by car Contact on +33 4 94 39 37 45

# Coming

We've got our eyes fixed on these openings

Got a boss or group travelling via **Eurostar** this season? You might be interested to hear that a winter cocktail menu is to launch in its new Paris Business Premier Lounge. Designed exclusively for Eurostar by the London Cocktail Club and Raymond Blanc OBE, the cocktails mix French spirits such as pastis and Cotes de Provence rosé with typically British ingredients such as cucumber juice and fresh rosemary. Salut!

As we went to press, super-cool Moxy Times Square had just opened its doors in - you guessed it -New York City. With 612 bedrooms and more than 2,000sq m of event space, the hotel offers plenty for bookers, including three 20-person 'studios' (each flexible and multipurpose, filled with state-of-the-art AV equipment), a brasserie called Legasea (there's a private dining room for 20 people) and the city's largest all-season indooroutdoor hotel rooftop bar, Magic Hour, which can host 540 guests across its two terraces.

## **Mandarin Oriental**

Qianmen will open near Tiananmen Square next year. Within the narrow lanes and alleyways of Beijing's 13th-century Qianmen East Hutong Quarter, the hotel group will offer restaurants including a traditional tea lounge - and event spaces carefully built around the area's architecturally unique courtyards. There'll also be a pool and spa, and the Forbidden City will be but a short, atmospheric walk away.









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## Terre Blanche ranked among the 30 Top Best Resorts in Europe by Condé Nast Traveler 2017

Condé Nast Traveler, one of the world's largest and most influential travel magazines, has awarded Terre Blanche Hotel Spa Golf Resort in its annual Readers' Choice Awards 2017, recognising the five star property amongst the 'Top 30 Resorts in Europe'.

st acknowledgement continues to highlight Terre Blanche as a top luxury destination for travelers in Ec

Designed to resemble a Provençal village, Terre Blanche is the only property of its kind in the region, renowned as one of the most outstanding estates in the south of France. The hotel prides itself on an environmentally friendly approach and aspires to provide the upmost quality experience for its guests through its gastronomic experiences, a multiaward winning spa, two of the most prestigious golf courses in Europe and a state-of-the-art Albatros Golf performance centre, labelled European Tour Performance Institute.

Perceived as one of the most important luxury travel publications, Condé Nast Traveler is aimed at providing the upmarket, independent traveler with destination inspiration both at home and abroad. More than 300,000 travelers to Awards survey, submitting millions of reviews and more than 100,000 comments to help create a list of winning favorites. elers took part in the 30th annual Readers' Choice

Commenting on the recognition, Alain Mourgues, General Manager of Terre Blanche states:
"We are honored to be chosen amongst the top 30 resorts in Europe by readers of Condé Nast Traveler. At Terre Blanche, we continuously strive to offer our guests with superior service and unforgettable guest experiences. To see that this resonates with our guests is a great honor."

## TERRE BLANCHE LOCATION:

45 Minutes from Nice Côte d'Azur International Airport 90 Minute Flight from UK

35 Minutes from Cannes, La Croisette 90 Minutes from Marseille 90 Minutes from Aix-en-Provence

80 Minutes from St-Tropez

### ADDITIONAL RECENT TERRE BLANCHE AWARDS

- World's Best Luxury Golf Resort Spa and winner of Western Europe's Luxury Hideaway Spa (World Luxury Spa Awards 2017) Best Golf Club in France 2017 by The Golfers' Choice rankings Best Golf Hotel of the Year 2016 by Luxury Travel Guide

- Europe's Best Luxury Golf Resort Spa and France's Best Luxury

  N°1 Golf Resort in Continental Europe by Golf World UK 2016

  Awarded four-star rating by the Forbes Travel Guide 2016 ıry Hideaway Spa (World Luxury Spa Awards 2016)

- 'Le Chateau' awarded 13th place within the top 100 Golf Courses in continental Europe for 2016-2017 by GOLF WORLD Magazine UK
- France's "Best Luxury Resort Spa" and a finalist in the "Best Luxury Destination Spa" at World Luxury Spa Awards 2015

  Best Luxury Destination Spa and Best Luxury Resort Spa (World Luxury Spa Awards 2014)
- Europe's and France's Best Golf Hotel (World Golf Awards 2014)
- France's Leading Resort (World Travel Awards 2013) Best Resort Hotel (International Hotel Awards 2013) IAGTO Award Best Golf Resort Europe 2013

At the end of the 1990s, Dietmar Hopp discovered the exceptional landscape of Terre Blanche and fell in love with what was then a dreamlike plot of woodland from a project never completed. The avid golfer and entrepreneur had great vision for what the immense space could become. Today, the stunning location that is now Terre Blanche Hotel Spa Golf Resort reflects the passion of Hopp's dream, while preserving the fragile balance of its natural surroundings. An environmentally aware and carefully built resort and golf centre, Terre Blanche aspires not only to provide the upmost quality experience for its guests but also to enhance the economy and tourism of the region.

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