

TATLER



TRAVEL 2019

101 HOTELS

| ASIA & INDIAN OCEAN |

FOUR SEASONS RESORT DESROCHES ISLAND

Desroches Island, Seychelles

Those clever people at Four Seasons have redefined fabulousness on the 933-acre island of Desroches – the furthest-flung of the Outer Islands in the Amirantes Bank of the Seychelles. There are miles of dazzling beaches, gangs of Aldabra tortoises, a bright-white lighthouse restaurant and bar where you can eat sea-fresh sashimi and stargaze. Every suite, bungalow and residence has a pool and bicycles with baskets. The bigger ones have private cabanas with black-fringed parasols, matching geometric cushions and hammocks. At the Castaway Centre, you can scuba dive, paddle-board, fish or snorkel. Listen to the crunch-crunch of parrotfish as they feed on coral or reel in a long-jawed snake mackerel. The spa is a little gem; 90 minutes of the Deep Dive massage will have you beelining for those famous Four Seasons beds. With its whispering breezes, rustling palms, cooing zebra doves, impeccable staff and stylish design, Desroches is making serious waves in the Seychelles. *Carrier (carrier.co.uk; 0161 492 1358) offers seven nights from £4,225, including breakfast, flights and transfers.*



RAAS DEVI GARH

Rajasthan, India

Expect surprises around every corner of this absurdly romantic heritage hotel, hidden among the Aravalli hills of Rajasthan. Interiors of dazzling white walls, shiny polished marble and sexy sunken baths seamlessly swirl with the faded grandeur of this 18th-century pleasure dome. Labyrinths of secret passageways, fairytale turrets, elegant courtyards, hanging terraces and winding stairways reveal faded frescos of Rajput equestrian antics, random Sanskrit graffiti and walls of gilt-framed Mughal miniatures; it's the very definition of atmospheric. We love the indoor/outdoor garden suites, arranged around a lush garden below the grey marble bath-warm pool. Up in the multilayered palace, every suite is unique, gazing out over the temple-studded Delwara village and the Aravallis beyond. Wake to sunrise rooftop yoga, head into the desert on horse or camel, then return for a spectacular Ila treatment in the spa and a refreshing G&T before a sumptuous supper. *Greaves India (greavesindia.co.uk; 020 7487 9111) offers five nights from £1,375, including flights and transfers.*

Expect surprises around every corner of this labyrinthine 18th-century pleasure dome