

THE  TIMES

MAGAZINE

The Travel Issue

31.01.15

DADDY TAKES A TRIP

Giles Coren: travels with my daughter



**CAITLIN MORAN:
I ♥ NEW YORK**

WHERE TOP CHEFS EAT

40 GREAT SECRET HOTELS

GET A ROOM

40 SECRET HOTELS

*Remote hideaways, urban hotspots, eco retreats
- Lisa Grainger lists the places the package tours cannot reach*

LIFERAFT

01
Tusitiri dhow,
East Africa

40 SECRET HOTELS



01 TUSITIRI

This floating hotel – a traditional dhow, with a crew of ten to attend to ten guests – plies relatively unexplored East African waters from Mozambique to Tanzania. During the day, guests can fish for tuna, snorkel and waterski; at night, after a seafood feast, mattresses are laid on deck so everyone can fall asleep while watching meteors shoot across the Milky Way. From £2,750 a night for 6, full board (enasoit.com)

02 LITTLE CHEM CHEM

French conservationist Nicolas Negre and his Swiss partner, Fabia Bausch, went to Tanzania to try to conserve wildlife while creating memorable experiences for guests. Five years later they own two tented safari camps, with stylish interiors, delicious food and good game-spotting. Little Chem Chem is a great place in which to slow down, track creatures, learn about plants – or just watch thousands of pink flamingos feast in the shallow lake. Doubles from £870 (chemchemsafari.com)

PREVIOUS SPREAD: STEVIE MANN

03 ULTIMA THULE LODGE

The owners of this remote Alaskan lodge lived here before it became part of the Wrangell-St Elias National Park, and today are surrounded by 13 million acres of protected wilderness. The nearest road is 100 miles away, so the only way in and out is by snow plane, on which guests are taken into the wilds to try ice-fishing, bear-watching, hiking, glacier-skiing and rafting. Doubles from £2,180, all inclusive (ultimathulelodge.com)

04 APA VILLAS

This Sri Lankan hideaway is tiny, comprising just three restored colonial villas, which can be rented by suite, by villa or as a whole property, right on the beach, five miles south of Galle. The staff whip up delicious local feasts (including moreish crab curry) and arrange activities from fishing on stilts to visiting Buddhist temples – if guests aren't lying about in coconut groves beside the infinity pool. Doubles from £103 (villa-srilanka.com)

05 PUREPODS

In hills overlooking the Pacific on New Zealand's South Island, Wayne and Anna Beggs have built a clutch of PurePods: glass eco-friendly rooms through which guests have 360-degree views. Walls fold back when it's hot, and wood-fired stoves heat the pods when it's snowing. There are no TVs or iPod docks – just the sights and sounds of nature. Doubles from £194 (purepods.com)

06 LE SIRENUSE

This is not exactly a secret; every celeb from John Steinbeck and Elizabeth Taylor has stayed at this family-run Positano institution since it opened after the Second World War. The reason they all go? Because it is so discreet. It's the sort of gloriously old-fashioned hideaway – embellished with gilt strong colours and Renaissance art – in which you could disappear for days, enjoying prosecco and crab linguine on sea-view terraces before slipping away on the hotel's Riva. Doubles from £290 (sirenuse.it) ➔