

BVZAAAR



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TRAVEL GUIDE 2010

The ultimate round-up of the world's
chicest hotels, resorts & private hideaways



BEST OASIS IN A CAPITAL

The Oyster Bay Hotel, Tanzania

An unexpected – and welcome – surprise in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania's down-to-earth capital, the Oyster Bay is a fully fledged boutique affair among the motels and business hotels, on the residential, ocean side of the city. It is set up for dusty, tired safari guests in transit who want to be pampered for a few hours, or a night, or even a few days. This is a beautiful house of airy open spaces, with French windows opening on to a clean, crisp sculpted garden filled with frangipani and white bougainvillea. Eight giant ocean suites face the sea, their clean, light lines livened up with modern African pieces, reflecting Dar es Salaam's mix of Swahili and Arabic influences. Expect free-standing baths, walk-through showers and balconies looking out onto the wide blue yonder. The trump card is that it's all-inclusive, so you can have anything you like – cocoa in bed, Pimm's by the pool, cold lobster at 3am – and it won't cost any extra. It's like staying at the charming house of an ambassador.

Three nights in an ocean-facing suite, from £1,350 a person full board, including flights with British Airways and transfers, with Ultimate Safaris & Islands (020 7589 8800; www.ultimatesafarisandislands.com).

NEW

BEST FOR HIGH LIVING

Canopy Tree House at Inkaterra Reserva Amazonica, Peru

The jungle lodge run by Inkaterra deep in the Amazon has always been luxurious. But it has just got better with the new Canopy Tree House, almost 100 feet up in the jungle, giving guests unparalleled access to the rainforest's treetop flora and fauna. Built in native style with a thatched roof and wooden interior, it is reached via a wooden tower and rope walkways. If the altitude gets too much, a second suite is available free of charge on the ground below; and there is a dedicated 'canopy butler' to provide room service. You'll be treated to the most breathtaking sunrises it's possible to see, as the sun lights up the heads of ceiba-trees so they look like fibre-optic lamps. *A 10-night trip to Peru, staying at Inkaterra properties, including three nights at the Canopy Tree House at Inkaterra Reserva Amazonica, costs from £4,492 a person B&B, including flights and transfers, with Last Frontiers (01296 653000; www.lastfrontiers.com).*

