

THE DIRTY SECRETS OF HOLLYWOOD'S ANIMAL ABUSE

# THE *Hollywood* REPORTER

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**WHY TNT WANTS TO BE AMC**

**SONY IN THE HOT SEAT**  
\$100 million in cuts, layoffs and the plan to reinvent

*What happens when Oprah, an upstart and A-list royalty go way off script*

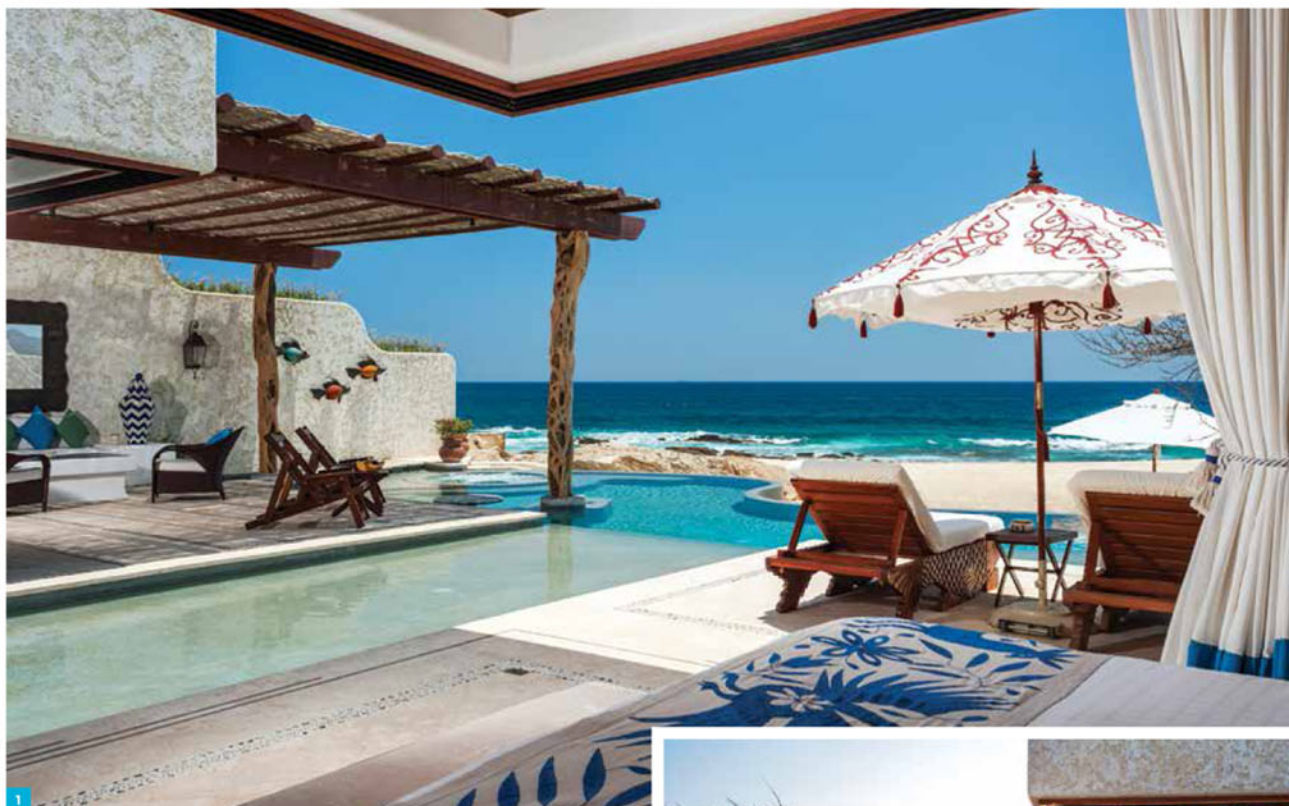
Clockwise from top left: Emma Thompson, Oprah Winfrey, Octavia Spencer, Amy Adams, Julia Roberts and Lupita Nyong'o

# The *Actresses*



# HOLLYWOOD'S WINTER ESCAPES

Go from 60 (degrees) to 80 fast at these new or renovated getaways in hotspots down south from Cabo to the Mexican Riviera, and from St. Barts (to be seen) and Bora Bora (to not)



105  
CABOS

LONGTIME FANS OF **Las Ventanas al Paraíso**, including ICM's **Toni Howard** (with such clients as **Samuel L. Jackson** and **Christopher Walken**), TV producer **Robert Morton** and his wife, restaurateur **Jennifer Morton**, and **Edie Falco's** producing partner **Richie Jackson** might be pleased to know that on Dec. 15, the Rosewood Resort officially will debut its new luxury beachfront villas (rates per night from \$5,175). But some things shouldn't change: "Las Ventanas is simply elegant and intimate with spectacular service without being pretentious," says Jennifer, while husband Robert cites the "best-smelling air" and Howard jokingly praises "the groveling, since I have to grovel all year long. The minute you walk in, they know what you drink; we have certain chairs that everybody knows are our chairs."

The renowned five-diamond property, with its 12 residential-style, sumptuous villas that cost \$55 million to build, will be the first of its kind in Los Cabos. Each villa — ranging from one to three bedrooms — houses at least 4,500 square feet on top of at least 1,800 square feet of private grounds, integrated into a seamless indoor-outdoor design. All villas come with infinity pools and swim-up bars, a 24-hour butler, a choice of wellness or screening room (for those Oscar screeners, but only in the one-bedrooms) and such in-villa amenities as cooking classes with the resort chef and a massage upon arrival.

Around town, the 96-room luxury resort **Capella Pedregal** recently partnered with Jose Cuervo Distillery in Guadalajara to create a specially designed tequila blend exclusively for resort guests. The 100 percent agave plata tequila once



1 The view from a private villa at Las Ventanas. Says Howard, who has been going for 15 years: "I'm so relaxed there, I don't need a massage. And Hawaii is too far to travel without hearing an accent." 2 Ventanas' indoor-outdoor spaces are well integrated. Luxe amenities include high-tech Japanese toilets, massive outdoor rain-showers in an enclosed tropical setting and the feeling of being apart from the rest of the resort.

was reserved only for the Cuervo family. The hotel has also teamed up with **Yifat Oren**, wedding planner for **Anne Hathaway**, **Drew Barrymore** and **Jason Bateman**.

In April, Grupo Questro, the developer responsible for **Puerto Los Cabos**, opened the trendy **El Ganzo**, a 72-room boutique hotel with a rooftop pool and underground recording studio (from \$885

for a large suite). Guests include **Sean Penn** and **Charlie Sheen**.

Cabo favorite and mainstay **Flora Farm**, a 10-acre organic playfield notable for dinners booked months in advance (thanks to the likes of **Thomas Keller** and **George Clooney**, who sup there) recently added a fine-dining **Table** restaurant that includes a beer garden and outdoor bar. — JIMMY IM





RIVIERA  
MAYA

1



2

1 The outdoor lounge area of the penthouse at the new Nizuc Resort & Spa on the Riviera Maya. 2 The infinity pool at Nizuc, where individual cabanas offer an unparalleled view of the resort's two private beaches and the Mesoamerican Barrier Reef, the second largest coral reef in the world. 3 The beef tenderloin steak at La Marea, the Mexican-Mediterranean restaurant at the Viceroy Riviera Maya.



3

of lavish space amid tropical gardens with an infinity pool and waterfall. The spa offers Mayan cacao oil massages, the perfect preparation for an evening of cocktail at Terra Nostra rooftop bar.

Expect Hollywood types to be drawn to the **Viceroy Riviera Maya** (from \$1,005) this

season. The swish seafront outpost of the beloved boutique brand (its 13 properties include those in Beverly Hills, Santa Monica and a newly opened New York hotel) is already a fave for **Rashida Jones**, **Jaime King** and **Molly Sims**, who says, "I was there recently for a girlfriend's birthday party — it was the perfect oasis." Now it has added five posh 1,400-square-foot villas with thatched palapa roofs for an indigenous "jungle" feel. But there's no chance of roughing it, with heated plunge pools, private sun decks and VRM's **La Marea**, one of the region's most exquisite dining experiences. — KEN SCRUDATO

THIS WINTER, THE MEXICAN RIVIERA benefits from several bold, glamorous updates, including a revamp by All Inclusive Collection, the Hard Rock Hotels' South American resort group, of **Aventura Cove Palace** (formerly the party destination for the likes of *Pretty Little Liars*' **Tyler Blackburn** and *American Idol*'s **Blake Lewis**). The new **Hard Rock Hotel Riviera Maya** is the antithesis of a boutique bolt-hole, with 1,264 plush guest rooms (rates from \$200), each equipped with a Jacuzzi-style hydrotub and liquor dispenser (essentially a full bar on tap). Ask for a Deluxe Platinum Grand Sky Terrace

room for more than 1,400 square feet of space and spectacular ocean views. The hedonism continues downstairs, with six restaurants — including the rustic French **Le Petit Cochon** — three bars and poolside snacking options. Repent afterward at the Yoga Temple or Body Rock Fitness Center.

For a more discreet getaway, the famous and monied (including members of the Miami Heat) flock to Punta Nizuc's elegant new **Nizuc Resort & Spa** (from \$650), set within a 29-acre reserve facing the Mesoamerican Barrier Reef. Ocean suites have jaw-dropping views, but the garden pool villas offer privacy and up to 2,750 square feet

MAUI

HOLLYWOOD AND Maui go together like coconut and cream: If a star doesn't

own a home here (**Oprah Winfrey**, **Woody Harrelson**, **Steven Tyler**), they're making frequent jaunts (music manager **Shep Gordon**). The latest resorts to raise the bar include **Andaz Maui at Wailea**, a 297-room, Rockwell Group-designed hipster outpost (from \$599) that opened in September. In the lobby, guests can dip toes in a sandpit while awaiting check-in. Chef **Masaharu Morimoto** opened a **Nobu** here, already a hotspot. After a 2011 management change, **Travaasa Hana**, formerly the Hotel Hana Maui — which had seen guests like **Lady Gaga**, thanks to its secluded location — added an all-inclusive option (from \$600), a Maui first. **Mayim Bialik** tweeted that Travaasa was her "best vacation ever," and *The Help* producer **Brunson Green** stayed there in October. At the chic,



The Apothecary Lounge at Andaz Maui, where bathroom floors are made of lava stone.

24-room **Lumeria Maui**, where **Marcia Gay Harden** and **Elysium** executive producer **Bill Block** have vacationed, stays include daily yoga and meditation (from \$329 in 2014). Montage Hotels took over the Ritz Carlton Residences at Kapalua Bay and will open **Montage Kapalua Bay** in early 2014. The 24-acre property will offer 50 suites with 56 residences for sale, a 30,000-square-foot spa and a multitiered lagoon pool cascading through the resort. — J.J.



The Four Seasons Bora Bora: Still a true getaway for a little while longer.

BORA BORA

WHEN HOLLYWOOD'S A-LIST WANTS TO MIX business with pleasure, they often go to the Four Seasons on the Big Island of Hawaii. But when they want to avoid business altogether, they jet farther west to the hotel's outpost on the island of Bora Bora, with its signature passion-fruit mojitos and bungalows poised over cut-glass water. (Bora Bora is nine hours from LAX and requires two flights but is in the same time zone as Hawaii.)

Once thought to be an exotic destination for honeymooners and reclusive movie stars like **Marlon Brando**, the French Polynesian island has become a go-to destination for industry types who, having made the scene, now wish to escape it. **Nicole Kidman** and **Keith Urban** were among the first to catch on to Bora Bora's allure when they honeymooned at the then-brand-new St. Regis Resort in 2006. As

PENTHOUSE: COURTESY OF RIVIERA MAYA NIZUC; INFINITY POOL: COURTESY OF CHRISTIAN HIRMAN; ANDAZ: COURTESY OF ANDAZ MAUI AT WAILEA RESORTS & SPA; BORA BORA: ANDAZ/ROSEMONTE/COURTESY OF FOUR SEASONS BORA BORA.



**Laura Ziffren**, music supervisor of films like *Moulin Rouge!*, explains: “The Four Seasons in Hawaii is like camp. It’s all about seeing old friends,” she says. “In Bora Bora, it’s not as social, but there are amazing water sports, and the sea life is incredible.” Who wouldn’t want a reprieve from swimming with Hollywood sharks to snorkel with actual ones in the gentle waters of French Polynesia?

But what once was a true hideout might soon turn into a Hollywood haunt: Boutique airlines like **Air Tahiti Nui**, having sussed out Bora Bora’s increasingly “It” island status, now are tricking out planes with more business-class seats than economy and a new four-star menu. No doubt run-ins will become more inevitable. When the COO of Lava Bear Films got married at the **Four Seasons Resort Bora Bora** two years ago, he ran smack into a big network executive sunning on the pure white sands. “We had the same idea and had to laugh,” says **Adam Rymer**. “But here’s the thing: It’s still much more private than the Four Seasons on Hawaii.” —SUSAN CAMPOS



The Hotel Saint-Barth Isle de France features an oversize stone soaking tub and (inset) a plunge pool.



ST. BARTS

AS *THR*’S HOTEL BLOGGER, I must say that a visit to Saint Barthelémy has to be all about the white-marbled gem **Hotel Saint-Barth Isle de France**, purchased in July by luxury giant LVMH. Its oak-floored 40 rooms, suites and villas (from \$685) are situated on the famous sugar sands of Flamands Beach; try Room 41 in the two-story Beach Suite (from \$2,420) for tremendous views and its own plunge pool with infinity edge (on the second floor!). Says Isle de France regular **Rachel Zoe**, “We’ve gone every year for 15 years. It’s one of the most beautiful spots in St. Barts (but not during Christmas; so crowded).” Slip off your sandals to lunch at the hotel’s **La Cabane**, set in the sand, where chef **Yann Vinsot** respectively fed **Jay Z** and **Beyonce** pea soup and ribs and breast of chicken with lemon, rosemary, ginger and sauteed vegetables.

For a more bohemian stay, there’s the **Hotel Taiwana** at the end of Flamands Beach. Home to St. Barts’ first tennis court, the boutique hotel reopens in November after a soup-to-nuts renovation, its 22 rooms, suites, beachfront villa and four-bedroom penthouse (from \$50 to \$6,500) accompanied by an outpost of London’s **Neville Hair Salon**.

Other news: **Daniel Boulud** protege **Laurent Cantineaux** brings his continental/Latino roots to **Bonito**, his very new, very chic beach-house restaurant overlooking the Gustavia harbor (also the place to be Friday nights when **DJ Maxx** spins). Barely a month old, **Black Ginger** delights with traditional Thai cuisine spiced up with local fish and open-to-the-sky roof treatments, while **O’Corail** is where chef **Vinsot** goes for a beach-shack Caribbean-Creole lunch, complete with French wine list. Saturday nights, celebrities hit myth-making **Le Ti**, where guests like **Zoe** “danced on many tables — before I had my son. It’s so fun, you get crazy. You can’t not dance.”

*Destination Happiness* founder **Melissa Schwartz** writes *THR.com*’s *Room Number* blog and is the ultimate travel fixer for VIP clients.

## WHAT TO DO, EAT AND DRINK AT ART BASEL MIAMI BEACH

**A**FTER 10 YEARS OF DRAWING THE Arterati to Miami Beach every December, Art Basel has its own traditions (beyond reliable sightings of **Calvin Klein**). Developer **Aby Rosen** always throws a dinner for an eclectic, elite bunch at the hottest new restaurant, while Artsy.com’s bash often wins the title of the week’s buzziest. This year, it will take over the **Freehand Miami Hostel** on Dec. 6 for an art-tech happy hour. (Make a mental note to check out the new food and drink place by **Gabe Orta** and **Elad Zvi** of Freehand’s pop-up cocktail joint **Broken Shaker** when it opens.) Concept boutique **The Webster** also will host its annual passel of private dinners for everyone from **Eddie Borgo** to, yes, **Klein**.

Gatecrashers will want to snag entry to **Elton John**’s AIDS Foundation cocktail party Dec. 2, hosted by Givenchy muse **Marina Abramovic**, and **Perez Art Museum Miami**’s 700-person gala, with a **Marc Anthony** performance, on Dec. 7. After two years of construction and more than a decade of discussions, the landmark \$220 million art space, renamed in honor of donor and local developer **Jorge Perez**, will debut with a show by Chinese dissident artist **Ai Weiwei**. Retail magnate **Galen Weston** and wife **Hilary** will host a rival event the same night at their gallery on Vero Beach, which will show **Jasper Johns**, a blockbuster worth the hours-long drive.

With **Jeffrey Deitch**’s annual event gone since he shuttered his namesake gallery in New York (long before resigning from the MOCA board in July), MoMA’s PS1 shindig at the reinvigorated **Delano** on Dec. 6 may win party primacy this year.



Soy milk pancakes with smoked pork, leek flower sauce and pickled mustard greens at Blackbrick.

As the fash pack flocks to Basel, expect ritzy store openings, from Swiss brand **Philipp Plein** to **Longchamp** to **Maison Laduree**, where a party Dec. 3 will celebrate its collaboration with artist **Will Cotton**, who developed a new macaron flavor (ginger-infused whipped cream), among other creations.

Miami’s “foodaissance” (per local blogger **Jacquelynn D. Powers**) doesn’t deny the city’s showgirl soul. **Roberto Cavalli**’s lavish, leopard-printed namesake restaurant opens just in time for Art Basel, serving Tuscan cuisine plus *Tenuta degli Dei* wine from the designer’s own vineyard. After a decade of being rechristened the Design District, Buena Vista on the mainland is finally drawing foodie folk and will soon be home to **Richard Hales’ Blackbrick**, a 50-seater Chinese restaurant named after the bricks of tea once used as currency in China. It will offer house-made noodles and even smoked charcuterie made on site. If all this sounds like sensory overload, producer **David Hoberman** advises: “The best way to survive Miami Basel is to take a run on the beach at the end of the day and jump in the ocean and let the water and art from the day wash over you.” —MARK ELLWOOD



A rendering of Cavalli’s eponymous restaurant.