

Robb Report



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THE ULTIMATE HOME 2015

East and West Harmonize above the Spectacular Skyline of Kuala Lumpur

APRIL 2015



GRAND OPENINGS

New Destinations in London, Tokyo, and Johannesburg

GRAND
OPENING

Perfect Zen

LOCATED WITHIN THE top six floors of the financial district's Otemachi Tower, the **Aman Tokyo** (amanotokyo.com) is a rare retreat amid the Japanese capital's vast and vibrant urban sprawl. Guests arriving at the hotel, which opened in December, can pass through Otemachi Forest, a 38,750-square-foot ground-floor garden thick with konara oaks and ginkgo. An ascent to the 33rd floor leads to a lobby with a reception desk carved from an ancient camphor tree. Washi paper screens, chestnut floors lined with tatami mats, and *furo*-style soaking tubs bring traditional Japanese minimalism to the 84 guest rooms and suites, many of which offer a glimpse of Mount Fuji beyond the booming metropolis. In the 26,900-square-foot spa, patrons don kimono-style robes and choose from a variety of Western and Japanese treatments; a similar East-meets-West mix is found in the restaurant, which serves pan-Asian and Mediterranean cuisines. For a purely local experience, the hotel's concierge can arrange a trip to the historic Myasaka sake brewery or a visit to the Tsukiji fish market. —JILL NEWMAN



MAP QUEST

Rare atlases and travel manuscripts go to auction.

A collection of historic books, manuscripts, prints, and photographs from around the world will hit the block on April 30 at Sotheby's London. **Travel, Atlases, Maps, and Natural History** (sothebys.com) will

include a large assemblage of early photographs from Singapore, China, and Cambodia, along with rare tomes on the Middle East and manuscript maps of Sri Lanka. Expected to fetch upwards of \$40,000 is *The History of*

Travels in the West and East Indies, a 16th-century account in English outlining the voyages of the Spanish conquistadors Francisco Hernández de Córdoba, Juan de Grijalva, and Hernán Cortés. —JACKIE CARADONNO

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PINK PALACE

IN DECEMBER, JOHANNESBURG'S beloved Westcliff Hotel—known since 1908 for its rosy facade and African-inspired interiors—emerged from an 18-month renovation by Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts. The resulting **Four Seasons Hotel the Westcliff, Johannesburg** (fourseasons.com), is a sleek and modern rendering of its treasured predecessor, featuring 117 rooms adorned with chrome chandeliers and custom-made zebra-print wallpaper. Four Seasons' contemporary spin also elevated the hotel's culinary offerings, which—led by the German chef Dirk Giesemann (formerly of the Michelin-three-star Auberge de l'Île in Illhaeusern, France)—include a fine-dining restaurant and a casual venue serving classic South African braai. Remaining resolutely unchanged through the flurry of upgrades is the Westcliff's magnificent hilltop perch overlooking the capital's surprisingly verdant cityscape. —SARAH KAHN

