

FALL FASHION

7th Anniversary
Special Issue

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Mehran, the
Ultimate
Girl Next
Door



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Crowning
Moment in
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*EXCLUSIVE
INTERVIEW*

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A seaside view of Laucaia island resort.

Island Bound

A week-long jaunt to Fijian paradise offers unparalleled privacy and a world of adventure

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travel

The only ways to reach Yasvata Island? Hop on a chartered plane or boat. Leave Nadi International Airport (an 11-hour flight from LAX) for the northern tip of the Fijian archipelago's seven-mile stretch, where you will be whisked in Range Rovers to a private ocean-side or hilltop thatched-roof villa tucked amid herb gardens, starfruit trees, tropical orchids and birds of paradise. The resort occupies a destination so remote, it's as if you've just been transplanted into a scene from *The Blue Lagoon*. Complete with an organic farm, horseback riding along the coast and a dive boat for trips to nearby reefs. First order of business: a 90-minute welcome

"You feel like it's just you and the staff—like you're royalty."

massage on the outdoor daybed overlooking sugar-white beaches. Each sprawling mahogany-wood suite, with its own pool, sundeck and al fresco shower, provides peaceful post-travel respite. The one-acre coconut plantation—now owned by Red Bull co-founder Dietrich Mateschitz, who acquired the property from publishing magnate Malcolm Forbes in 2003—has seen its share of celebrity visitors (Gibby: Taylor, the Rockstealers and Oprah Winfrey, for starters). "They really roll out the red carpet from start to finish here," says a recent guest. With only 25 villas, "You feel like it's just you and the staff—like you're royalty."

A day's activities might include cycling, deep-sea fishing, snorkeling or a round of 18 holes on the David Melay Kidd-designed golf course, before unwinding with a fresh-squeezed watermelon juice cocktail at the Pool Bar. For dinner, choose from five on-site restaurants that utilize local-grown produce and serve everything from Teppanyaki barbecue to authentic Asian cuisine. Or, for a cozy night in, private dining (a far cry from typical "room service") includes a meticulous set-up for custom courses such as prawns with melon and rocket and filet mignon.

If you're bent on some rest and relaxation, head up to the spa for the signature Rebalance Facial or Papaya Body Wrap. To get a closer look at the made-in-house products, technicians teach a soap- and lotion-making class at the Spa Kitchen. The only drawback? "I can honestly say that no future vacation will ever compare to this." *All-inclusive, from \$3,800/day per couple; Inuvata.com.* ♦



FROM TOP: A breathtaking view of azure waters from a villa's lounge. The Overwater Residence's washroom with standalone tub. Private infinity pool and sundeck. A bedroom outfitted in island-chic, Fijian decor. Suspended bridges lead to the Peninsula Residence.

