



Hotels

Travel News: 17 Openings, Renovations, and New Trips to Book This November

By Jen Murphy on October 26, 2016

The buzziest happenings in the world of travel this month.



Courtesy Quasar Expeditions

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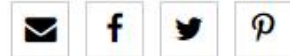
A new wellness retreat debuts in Mexico, New Zealand gets an exclusive estate, the St. Regis opens a private-island resort in the Maldives, plus 14 more of the travel world's most notable happenings during the month of November.



Courtesy Helena Bay

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New Lodge Opens on New Zealand's North Island

Russian billionaire Alexander Abramov's \$50 million-plus private North Island estate debuts as a luxury lodge November 1. The intimate retreat features a main house and two guest villas, including five private villa suites, each with a private balcony. Guests arrive via a 40-minute flight from Auckland in the property's private helicopter. Despite the lodge's location on one of New Zealand's most untouched stretches of coast, guests will want for nothing. In addition to an art gallery, library, and restaurant concept from celebrated Michelin two-star chef Ernesto Iaccarino of Italy's Don Alfonso 1890, the property offers a spa wing with a gym, sauna, massage room, steam rooms, cold plunge pool, and a heated fresh water swimming pool. Onsite activities range from kayaking to volleyball. *From \$1,750; 1948 Russell Rd., Helena Bay; 64/433-6006; helenabay.com.*



Courtesy The Marlborough Lodge Ltd.

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Marlborough Lodge Opens In New Zealand

At the tip of New Zealand's South Island, Marlborough is one of the world's more recognizable wine regions, but limited lodging has made it difficult to visit. That changes in November with the opening of Marlborough Lodge. One of the area's top tour operators, Marlborough Tour Company, has converted a Victorian convent into a ten-suite inn with in-house chefs that pair estate-grown produce with local wines. "No other province in New Zealand has a world-class wine region, a ski field and mountain lake district, and a water paradise like the Marlborough Sounds, all within an hour's drive," says Chris Godstiff, who owns the company. Set on 16 acres near Blenheim, the lodge is a short bike ride or drive from over 30 cellars, including Cloudy Bay and Kim Crawford Wines. *Rooms from \$869; 76 Rapaura Rd., Blenheim; 64-3/570-5700; themarboroughlodge.co.nz. —Erin Riley*