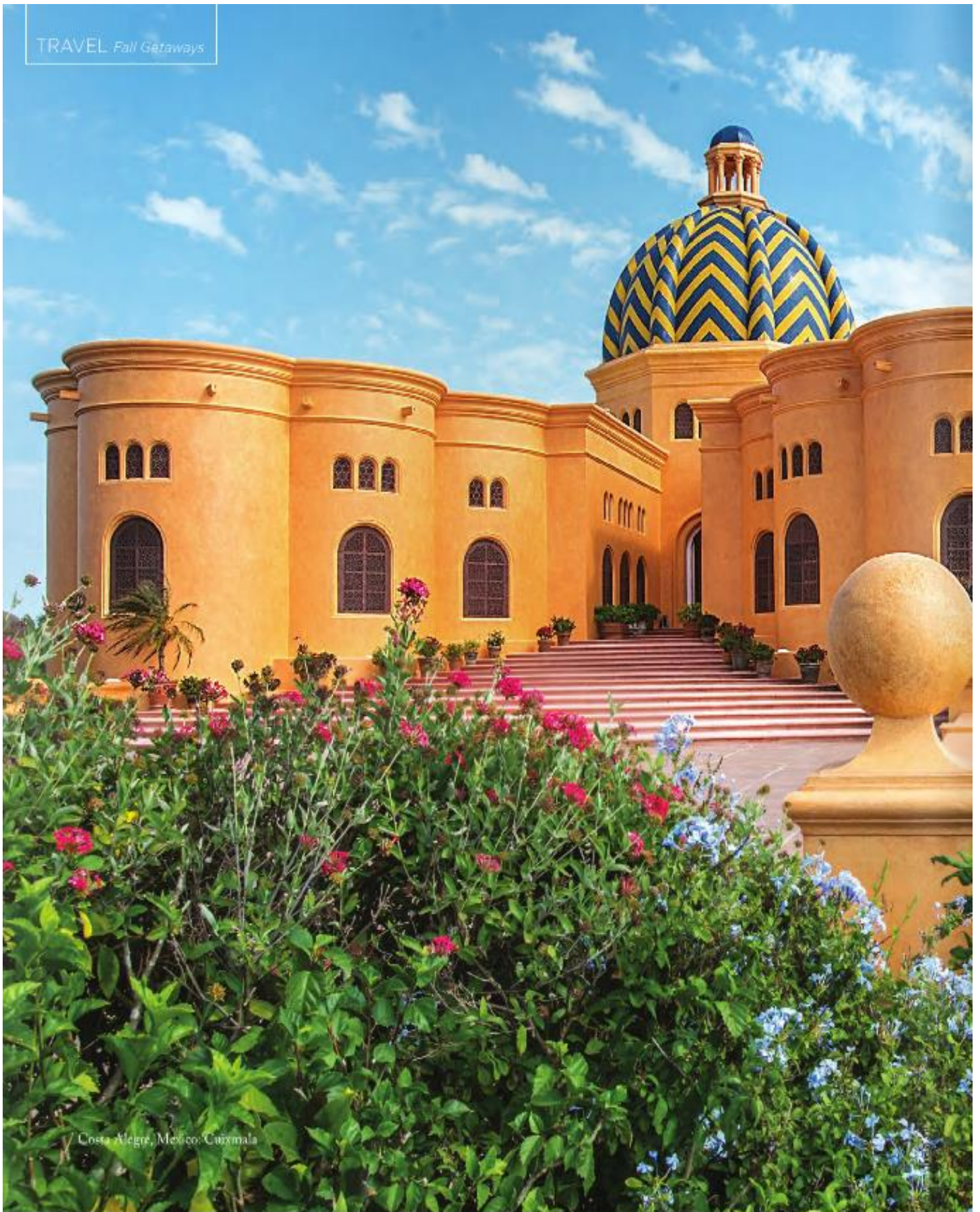


LUXURY

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Costa Alegre, Mexico: Curzuma



HAVE IT ALL

Ballrooms are boring. Villa rentals can leave you wanting more. For your next special occasion—whether it's a milestone birthday or a family reunion—BOOK THE ENTIRE HOTEL. From coastal camping in luxury tents to renting out an entire ski mountain, the options on this list are properties that specialize in crafting unforgettable one-off experiences. Dream big, because the entire resort is yours.

by JENNIFER ASHTON RYAN



Northland, New Zealand **HELENA BAY LUXURY LODGE**

Destination: For all the spectacle that the South Island's snow-capped mountains are famed, the beaches, islands, and pristine waters of the North Island are revered. These were Māori lands, the forests and grasslands speckled with terraced hills and other Pā sites. The pristine Helena Bay promises complete privacy and luxury. The beachfront property sits on 2 miles of private coastline, reached by helicopter in 40 minutes from Auckland.

Hotel: Built over six years for a reported \$50 million, Helena Bay Luxury Lodge opens in November for just five couples at a time among two suites and three junior suites. The U-shaped main lodge will have a farm-to-table restaurant helmed by the same team as the Michelin-starred Ristorante Don Alfonso

1890 of southern Italy. Through Leica binoculars in each room, you can spot passing dolphins and orcas. In the spa wing, find a range of hot, cold, wet, and dry facilities as well as a state-of-the-art gym looking out to the pool.

Bespoke Experiences: When one party rents the entire place, up to five additional rooms in the main lodge become available. Helena Bay staff can arrange private dives at the nearby Poor Knights Island. Fishing boat charters, farm tours and personalized menus from chef Michele Martino, and helicopter tours on the lodge's own AugustaWestland AW109S Grand can also be organized.

From \$1,550 per room, all-inclusive; buyout from \$8,925, all-inclusive per night for up to 10 people; helena.com.



Drew McQueen Photography