

TRAVEL + LEISURE

SOUTHEAST ASIA

JANUARY 2019

Bali

WHERE THE COOL
KIDS HANG



WHERE
TO GO IN
2019

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**YOUR NEXT TRIP TO
JAPAN SORTED**

JANUARY 2019

REASONS TO TRAVEL

IN 2019

19 PLACES WORTH PLANNING A TRIP AROUND THIS YEAR

The *Sea Gipsy* docks at uninhabited islands around the Mergui Archipelago.



no. **1**

Now's the time to book a trip to this long-lost island paradise.

The remote and undeveloped Mergui Archipelago in Burma's part of the Andaman Sea has more to offer than just a cruise from afar. As the government begins to hand out more hotel licenses, a few new resorts now offer island stays to help explore this pristine region. Go now, before the word gets out.

By Joe Cummings

PHOTO: ANDREAS SCHWE



Bullo River Station, a lodge in Australia's Northern Territory.

no. 15 Experience outback life in the Northern Territory.

The remote Australian region is pouring millions into tourism initiatives, including a National Aboriginal Art Gallery and new hiking and biking trails. But even before all that takes shape, it's worth a visit, especially being such a close port to Asia. At **Uluru** (parksaustralia.gov.au), the sandstone monolith revered by the area's Indigenous people, the massive—and massively popular—*Field of Light* installation by artist Bruce Munro has extended

its run through December 2020. And in the Top End, the northernmost part of the territory, the 12-room **Bullo River Station** (bullo.river.com.au; doubles from \$576) has a crisp new look courtesy of Sydney designer Sibella Court, with jewel-colored tiles and Indigenous art. On the 200,000-hectare grounds, you can view rock paintings dating back thousands of years, and baobab trees, plus spot the area's huge saltwater crocodiles. —CARRIE HUTCHINSON

no. 16 Tisvildeleje and the Danish Riviera has all they hygge you can handle.

The Danish seaside village of Tisvildeleje has always had a cult following. In ancient times, it was a sacred site dedicated to the god Tyr; its spring drew pilgrims who believed its waters had healing properties. More recently, Tisvildeleje and the surrounding Danish Riviera have attracted urbanites who embrace the area's rustic, unpretentious charms. The town is little more than a main road, lined with intimate restaurants such as the buzzy new **Tisvilde Kro** (tisvildekro.dk; mains \$25–\$55); a bakery, **Brød & Vin** (tisvildelejebager.business.site); and tiny boutiques. The choicest stays are two reimagined 19th-century properties: the boho **Tisvildeleje Strandhotel** (strand-hotel.dk; doubles from \$122) and **Helenekilde Badehotel** (helenekilde.com; doubles from \$213), a grand beach house with Midcentury Modern Danish furnishings and front-row views of the Kattegat Sea. —GISELA WILLIAMS



Tisvilde Kro serves modern Danish cuisine.



The infinity pool at the Kempinski Hotel Muscat.

no. 17 Oman has earned some extra bling.

A crop of stylish hotels underlines the diversity of experiences available in Oman. On the southern coast, the **Al Baleed Resort Salalah** by **Anantara** (anantara.com; doubles from \$405) is a gateway to banana forests, dolphin-filled waters, and the UNESCO-listed Frankincense Trail. In Muscat, the beachside

Kempinski Hotel Muscat (kempinski.com; doubles from \$332) debuted last April with a grand lobby inspired by the country's Persian architectural heritage. The **Al Bustan Palace, a Ritz-Carlton Hotel** (ritzcarlton.com; doubles from \$457), one of Oman's most iconic resorts, unveiled a redesign incorporating traditional Omani prints. And now that Muscat International Airport has wrapped the first phase of a \$1.8 billion expansion, airlines are launching new flights to the country. —H.W.