

10TH

ANNIVERSARY
special issue

A decade of dream trips

MARLON BRANDO'S
SECRET ISLAND

THE ULTIMATE
WINTER THRILLS



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The Daily Telegraph

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SUPPLEMENT OF THE YEAR

WINTER 2014

the NEXT BIG THING

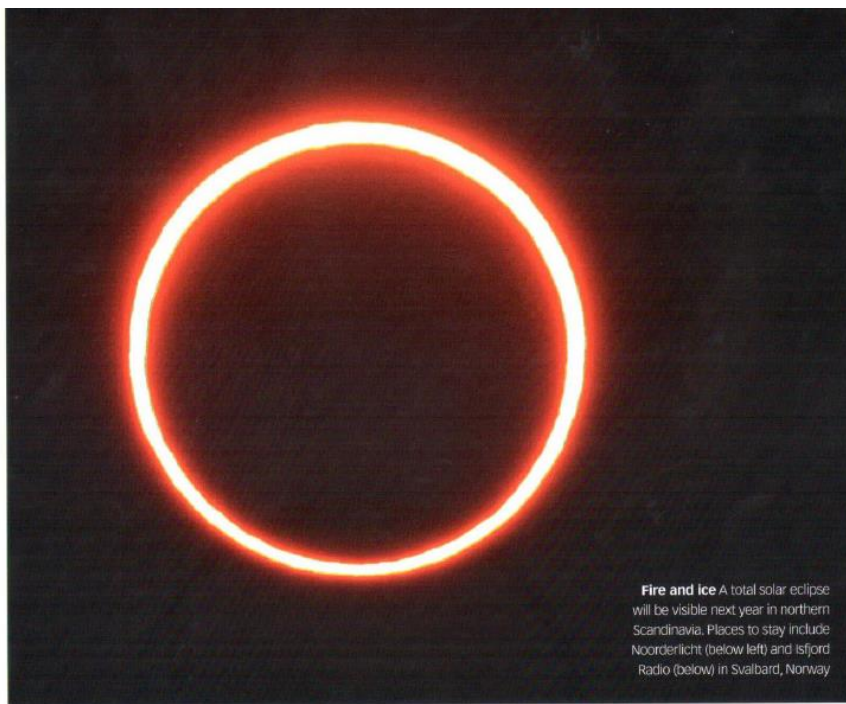
● DARK SIDE OF THE SUN

Although total eclipses – during which the Moon totally blocks the light of the sun – can be seen somewhere on Earth every year or two, they are very rarely seen in Europe. Which is why there is mounting excitement about the next total solar eclipse, on March 20 2015, which will be visible in northern Scandinavia.

Normally at this time of year above the Arctic Circle, the sun is only just beginning to show after six months of winter darkness. On March 20, though, no sooner will it have come up than its light will be blocked by the Moon passing in front of it, casting an eerie glow on to the snow and ice around.

Good viewing is predicted around Svalbard (svalbard2015.no) in northern Norway, which has several extremely comfortable places in which to stay. Real explorers might enjoy Basecamp Explorer's (basecampexplorer.com) 100-year-old ice-bound schooner, Noorderlicht, accessible only by dog-sled or snowmobiles, while those who like creature comforts might prefer the converted radio station, Isfjord Radio, or the warm Trapper's Hotel, whose wooden interiors are decorated with the odd polar-bear skin.

Tour operators offering trips to see the eclipse – and perhaps the Northern Lights – include Nordic Experience (01206 708888; nordicexperience.co.uk), whose four-day trip to the Faroe Islands costs from £2,495, and Wexas Travel (020 7590 0618; wexas.com), whose seven-day Spitsbergen trip costs from £4,995. This isn't a journey that can be put off – while there will be a total eclipse in America in 2017, and several in the next decade in the southern hemisphere, the next total eclipse anywhere near us will be in 2081 in central Europe, and in Britain in 2090. More information from visitnorway.co.uk. **Lisa Grainger**



Fire and ice A total solar eclipse will be visible next year in northern Scandinavia. Places to stay include Noorderlicht (below left) and Isfjord Radio (below) in Svalbard, Norway



● HOT HOTEL OPENINGS



Yet more reasons to visit those quintessential city-break destinations, Paris and New York, in the next few months. Over the Channel, the new intimate 40-bedroom **La Réserve Hotel, Spa and Apartments Paris** (lareserve-paris.com), designed by Jacques-Garcia, will open just off Palais de l'Elysée. Meanwhile, in New York, **The Knickerbocker** (theknickerbocker.com) will

feature a Charlie Palmer restaurant and rooftop bar (above) with views of Times Square.

Less conventional destinations are also luring travellers with the promise of a new place to stay. On a private island in Mozambique, adults-only **Anantara Medjumbe Island** (medjumbe.anantara.com) resort will be a place to rejuvenate; it opens in December.

In January in Australia, **Pumphouse Point** (pumphousepoint.com.au) opens as an 18-bedroom boutique hotel seemingly afloat on the southern hemisphere's deepest lake, Tasmania's Lake St Clair. A Unesco World Heritage site and one of the birthplaces of Taoism, China's Qing Cheng Mountains will be more accessible in February, when **Six Senses Qing Cheng** (sixsenses.com) opens nearby. For a more cosmopolitan break, there's the **The Penthouse** hotel in Calcutta, due to have a soft opening in spring. Operated by the city's Prakash family, the nine-bedroom property stands atop an all-glass block. It is set to be the chicest place to stay for travellers – many of whom will also have visited the family's Glenburn Tea Estate (glenburnteaestate.com) in Darjeeling.

● BARCELONA'S SUPERCLUB

Could the superyachting community spurn Monaco's gilded charms for Barcelona? Yes, if OneOcean Ventures has its way. Having acquired the city's Marina Port Vell, the company has opened OneOcean Club (oneoceanclub.es). The superyacht club has a 400-cover restaurant, overseen by Llorenç Valls, former head chef of Arzak in San Sebastián, and is twinned with the Rybovich Superyacht Marina in Florida.



ONtrend:



● JET-SET CHEFS

Unable to make it to a well-regarded but distant restaurant? Wait long enough and the chefs might come to you. In January and February René Redzepi will relocate Copenhagen's Noma (noma.dk), named the best restaurant in the world, to the Mandarin Oriental in Tokyo (mandarinoriental.com), giving the hotel's Asian cuisine a Scandi slant. More ambitiously, Heston Blumenthal will relocate The Fat Duck to Melbourne for six months, to the Crown Tower Resorts (thefatduckmelbourne.com). Closer to home, Harrods (harrods.com) has taken on chefs from some of Italy's best restaurants. With seven Michelin stars between them, the teams from Torre del Saracino on the Amalfi coast (torredelsaracino.it), Enoteca Pinchiorri in Florence (enotecapinchiorri.it) and Piazza Duomo in Alba (piazzauomoalba.it) will take it in turns to run pop-up restaurants on the premises until January.

ROBERT SHARROULT/GETTY

