

GREEN *Getaways*

From picking your own veg in Cornwall to making like Tarzan amidst the trees in the Amazonian basin, Nancy Alsop rounds up the best eco-escapes

NUARRO LODGE, MOZAMBIQUE

Newly opened Nuarro Lodge – so-called after the coral in Nanatha Bay, northern Mozambique – is not just beautiful; it is ethical to its foundations. Its 12 uber-luxurious beach-front chalets were primarily built by local people – assisted and trained by skilled carpenters, builders and electricians – using exclusively green technology and traditional methods. Not a single nail, drill or screw was used in the construction process; rather it has been tied and secured using bark and rubber from the inner tubes of bicycle tyres. Meanwhile, the lodge will provide not just a boost to the local economy, but also a multi-functioning community centre, agricultural projects and business opportunities for the locale. Visitors can ponder the community-mindedness of their lodgings while reclining on their chalet's beach-facing verandas, which also constitute the perfect spot for spying humpback whales breaching in the bay from June to November. Meanwhile, there is also a PADI dive centre, a restaurant which hangs over the rocks, but guests should also make sure they pay a visit to the local community on whose land the lodge is built.

£185 per person, per night.

For honeymooners, brides pay half,
020 7622 5114, imagineafrica.co.uk

CANOPY TREE HOUSE, PERU

While the Inca Trail may not be the major transportation route it was in the 15th-century, it still attracts tourists in their thousands. For the past three decades, Inkaterra Reserva Amazonica has promoted sustainable sightseeing in the Andean cloud forest and Reserva Amazonica; each year 65,000

travellers have trod the trail in the knowledge that hosts Inkaterra receive support from the United Nations' Global Environmental Facility and the National Geographic Society. In accordance, its newest lodgings are no less environmentally sound; the two-person Canopy Tree House – with its wooden interiors and thatched roof made of local materials – is elevated at 90-feet and has views of the Southern Amazonian Basin below. There is an abundance of wildlife here; so rich is it in fascinating fauna that Inkaterra's scientific researchers decamp there to learn more about the indigenous species from above in an area that has previously been hard to monitor, thus enabling them to learn more about how to preserve it. And if that isn't enough, guests can order 'jungle meals' in the treetops, go for moonlight strolls along the Canopy Walkway and enjoy the luxury of having a butler, who is on-call via walkie talkies – the height of luxury in one of South America's highest jungle rooms.

Visit inkaterra.com, prices start at US \$300 per person, per night, based on two sharing, and is additional to any stay at Inkaterra Reserva Amazonica