

I'M PACKING FOR MY HONEYMOON. In goes another sweater, some waterproofs and old walking shoes. You'd think someone who was editor-in-chief of boutique hotel specialist Mr & Mrs Smith for more than 10 years might choose white-sand beaches and private cabanas for that special escape, but no, not me. 'You're going where?' asked my Canadian father. 'Yes, Dad, Newfoundland for three nights.'

I'd had my eye on the rugged, rocky coast of Canada's easternmost island since Todd Saunders' dramatic, stilted rectangular architecture came to fruition as Fogo Island Inn in 2013. Instead of dreaming about infinity pools and marble bathrooms, I was excited about hand-loomed artisanal rugs and foraged

food in this environmentally conscious social enterprise. I'd read that to revive the struggling fishing village's economy, boat-builders had been redeployed as the hotel's furniture makers, and patchwork bedspreads had been made by hookers. 'Wow, that is novel', I thought, before discovering that's the local nickname for quilters. What better adventure for a honeymoon?

A few years before, I'd heard Zita Cobb's TED Talk about Fogo Island Inn. A Fogo Islander herself and the sixth of seven children born to an illiterate, cod-fishing family, Cobb left Fogo Island at 16 to study business, retiring in her late forties as one of Canada's richest women thanks to a smart sale of fibre-optics stock. By setting up the Shorefast Foundation, Cobb revived Fogo's

fishing community before financing the inn – a stunning 29-suite hotel at the edge of the Atlantic.

'Fogo Island Inn exists to be a servant of the nature and culture of this place,' says Cobb. 'How it was conceived and the way it is operated is the lens through which we make every decision about the positive impact on the natural and cultural environment.'

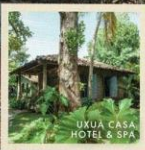
'We believe that ecological sustainability follows from social sustainability – business is one of our best tools.'



FOGO ISLAND INN



GROOTBOS



UXUA CASA HOTEL & SPA

Collages by
GUS
& STELLA

FOGO ISLAND INN

Sustainability just got sexy

How do seekers of stylish escapes find the greenest hotels?
JULIET KINSMAN, co-founder of eco-hotel champion Bouteco, has all the answers

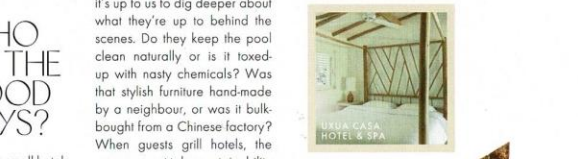


EXPLORE

THE MOUNTAINS BEHIND ARISTI MOUNTAIN RESORT



PAPAYA FLAVA PROJECT



UXUA CASA HOTEL & SPA

WHO ARE THE GOOD GUYS?

By choosing small hotels with big hearts, we all have the power to make the world a better place. Bouteco (bouteco.co) has a list of approved stylish hotels and focuses on areas such as solar energy, local sourcing and responsible construction, to reach sustainability and social-responsibility objectives.



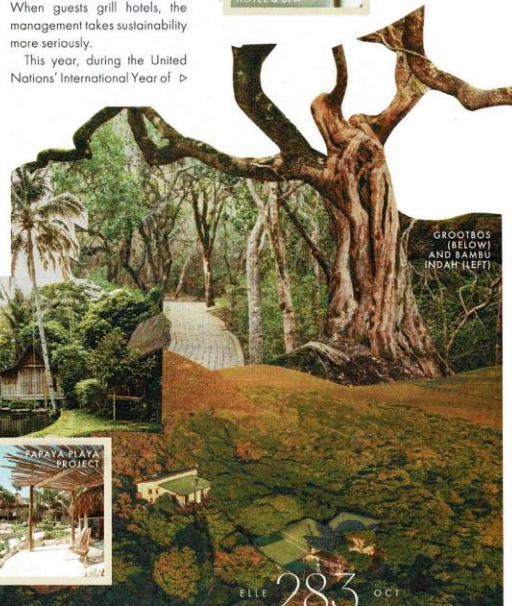
SONG SAA



UXUA CASA HOTEL & SPA



PAPAYA FLAVA PROJECT



GROOTBOS (BELOW) AND BAMBU INDAH (LEFT)

Renier Bouman, Brian Hodges Photography, Moni Us, Court

BE AN ECO WARRIOR

1. MAKE A FUSS

If we all talk louder about the hotels that do support local suppliers and consider environmental impact, it will prompt others to be more responsible. Before booking, email to ask the hotel about water preservation. And request menus that promise local, seasonal ingredients from small producers.

2. SAVE WATER

Shower instead of having a bath and limit laundry, including bed linens and towels. Buy a refillable water-filtering bottle such as LifeStraw (lifestraw.com) and make sure drinks in restaurants are local and not imported.

3. AVOID PLASTIC

Oceans are teeming with rubbish and microscopic plastics from beauty products, and many tropical destinations are landfill disaster zones. Leave all packaging out of your luggage, avoid plastic bottles of water and *never* use a plastic straw again.

4. BE NATURAL

Chemicals in toiletries are killing the coral reefs. Avoid oxybenzone, the UV-filtering chemical found in most sunscreens, in favour of natural products such as those at nealsardremedies.com and jasonnaturalcare.co.uk.

5. GO GUERRILLA

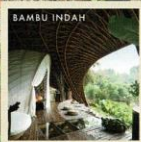
Initiatives such as packforapurpose.org recommend what to take to donate to certain places, including paperbacks for South Africa's Ullusaba Private Game Reserve's adult-literacy programme.

Sustainable Travel, I launched Boutecco (boutecco.co) with former editor of *Green Hotelier* Holly Tuppen, to make it easier for seekers of stylish hotels to find the most sustainable ones. On our site we share stories of sustainability, offer independent travel advice and generally support hip hotels that are doing the right thing.

It's down to each of us to choose where we stay wisely. Small steps can have a big impact – especially when more than a billion people globally take holidays every year, and, of course, the honeymoon market is booming.

So while my husband and I didn't spend our time Instagramming ourselves clinking mai tais under a palm tree, the awesome images of Fogo's dramatic architecture and bleakly beautiful untouched landscape will live in my mind forever.

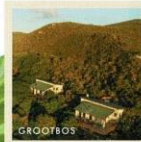
And the true feel-good factor came from staying at a hotel that is working towards a happy-ever-after that benefits the whole world.



BAMBU INDAH

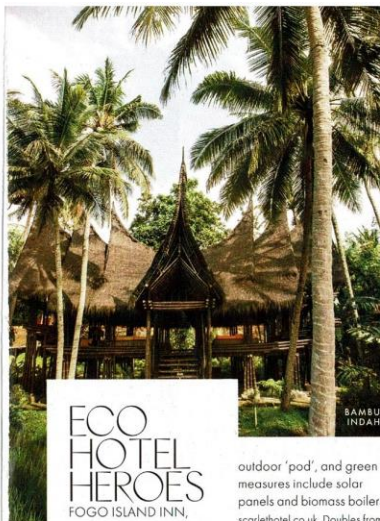
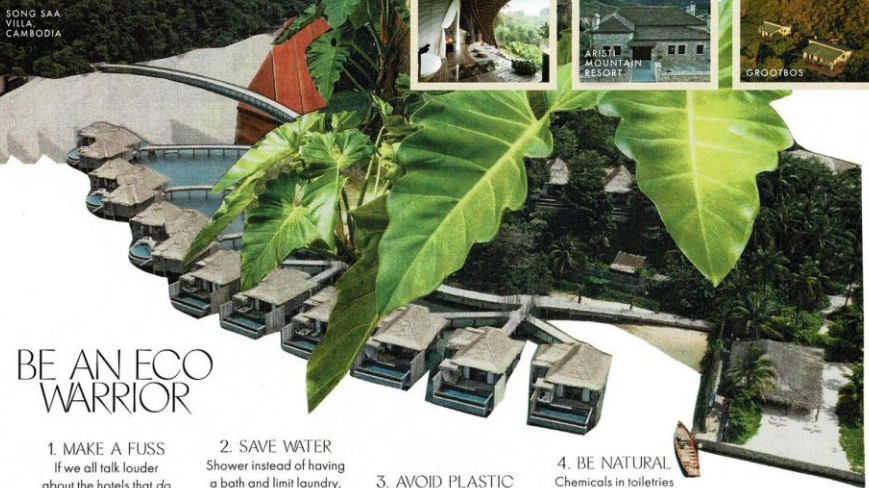


ARISTI MOUNTAIN RESORT



GROOTBOS

SONG SAA VILLA, CAMBODIA



BAMBU INDAH

ECO HOTEL HEROES

FOGO ISLAND INN, NEWFOUNDLAND

This remote 29-suite inn was created by a registered charity and operates as a social business, with a cinema and art gallery. fogoislandinn.ca. Doubles from £1,041, full board

LUXUA CASA HOTEL & SPA, BAHIA, BRAZIL

With a beach club in reach, the casas off Trancoso's grassy, car-free square are set in original fisherman's houses – most dating back 500 years. uxua.com. Suites from £440, B&B

PAPAYA PLAYA PROJECT, TULUM, MEXICO

These palapa huts and treehouses are set in pristine jungle fringed by white sand and the Caribbean Sea's barrier reef. Its goal is to be totally sustainable and of true benefit to the community. papayaplayaproject.com. Doubles from £133, B&B

THE SCARLET, CORNWALL

Luxurious but laid-back, this adults-only hotel in Mawgan Porth is as eco-friendly as it is chic. Every room comes with its own sea-view balcony or

outdoor 'pod', and green measures include solar panels and biomass boilers. scarlethotel.co.uk. Doubles from £240, B&B

ARISTI MOUNTAIN RESORT, GREECE

This 24-room retreat is built in complete harmony with its Pindus Mountains backdrop. It uses LED lights, a high-tech waste-water cleaning system and was built with local materials. aristi.eu. Doubles from £105, B&B

THE ZETTER TOWNHOUSE, LONDON

This boutique hotel and co-working space is one of the greenest options in the capital, thanks to its energy-saving technology and eco-friendly materials. thezettertownhouse.com. Doubles from £232, room only

BAMBU INDAH, UBUD, BALI

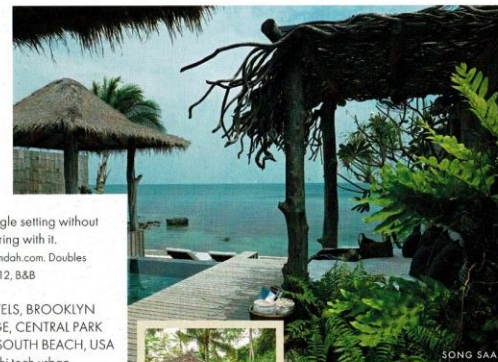
This riverside eco resort's fantasy bamboo suites and organic grown-in-the-garden meals tune you into



PAPAYA PLAYA PROJECT



LUXUA CASA HOTEL & SPA



SONG SAA

the jungle setting without tampering with it. bambuindah.com. Doubles from £112, B&B

1 HOTELS, BROOKLYN BRIDGE, CENTRAL PARK AND SOUTH BEACH, USA

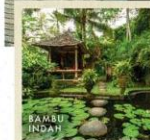
These hi-tech urban bunk-ups reconnect you with nature through the plant-rich interiors and living walls. 1hotels.com. Doubles from £273, room only

KASBAH DU TOUBKAL, ATLAS MOUNTAINS, MOROCCO

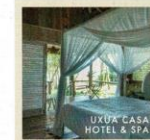
All staff come from the area and the hotel supports education and medical care for local communities. kasbahdutoubkal.com. Doubles from £156, B&B

SONG SAA, KOH RONG, CAMBODIA

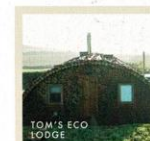
A trailblazing luxury hotel in a remote paradise, the Song Saa Foundation helps conserve Cambodia's ocean habitats. In 2016, they distributed iron supplements to island families and worked with authorities to protect native sea turtles. songsaa.com. Doubles from £694, B&B



BAMBU INDAH



LUXUA CASA HOTEL & SPA



TOM'S ECO LODGE

GROOTBOS, SOUTH AFRICA

This luxury eco nature reserve near a wild beach has a plant-a-tree programme, bans single-use plastic bottles, supports local suppliers and runs a community farm. grootbos.com. Doubles from £300, full board plus excursions

KATAMAMA, SEMINYAK, BALI

In this 59-suite boutique hotel, almost everything is locally sourced, including the hand-dyed textiles and hand-pressed bricks. They use no plastic and lighting dims when no one is in the room. katamama.com. Doubles from around £300, room only

TOM'S ECO LODGE, ISLE OF WIGHT

You'll find eco pods, tents, cabins and self-catering cottages on this rustic farm. Solar panels and sewage-treatment facilities make them as self-sufficient as possible, and guests are encouraged to pick from the fruit trees and use the herbs outside their tents in their cooking. tonsecolodge.com. Doubles from £90, room only



BAMBU INDAH



FOGO ISLAND INN

Photographs: Eilann Hoedger Photography, Markus Gantz, Courtesy of Onatobos Private Nature Reserve