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Launch pad

ZANZIBAR



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You may be familiar with the Residence hotels in Mauritius and Tunis. Now this slow-growing group with a nice line in non-bling luxury is opening its most secluded property yet, on the unspoilt south-west of Zanzibar, arguably the island's best coast for beaches and dolphin spotting. Sixty-six villas, each with a pool and

butler, are set in 80 acres of tropical gardens on a mile of beach. The spa – offering shiatsu-led therapies and Carita treatments – has five acres to itself. Desalination, waste-water recycling and a heat-exchange air-conditioning system tick the green boxes. Young guests get their own kids' club in a Bedouin tent, but peace still reigns: couples seeking privacy will be housed well away from families. **AMANDA MORISON**
The Residence Zanzibar (00 255 245 555 000; www.theresidence.com/zanzibar). Garden villas from €500 per night

Caffeine fix

French hotelier Emmanuel Rengade has opened his second boutique hotel near the historic Brazilian town of Parati, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Called **CATUCABA**, the 450-hectare farm and coffee plantation now operates as a rustic-chic hideaway with 10 bedrooms. Rengade's first property there, Pinguaba, has been counted among the area's best for years. **SCOTT MITCHEM**
www.catucaba.com. Doubles from 610 real (about £235)



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Turn your thoughts to sunnier climes with Aesop's new **Gertrude Street skincare travel kit**, featuring classic products and named after the Melbourne street on which one of its first signature stores opened. Look out for Aesop's new Sage & Zinc Facial Hydrating Cream SPF15, also launching this month.

Price £81; www.aesop.com

MY PERFECT DAY IN... BEIRUT

Mourad Mazouz

> **10AM** I usually have coffee at home, overlooking Beirut's horse-racing tracks – it's quite a view. Then I head to **Balima** [Ghalghoul Street; 00 961 1 985295], a quiet, laid-back Parisian-style café in the Saifi Village area.

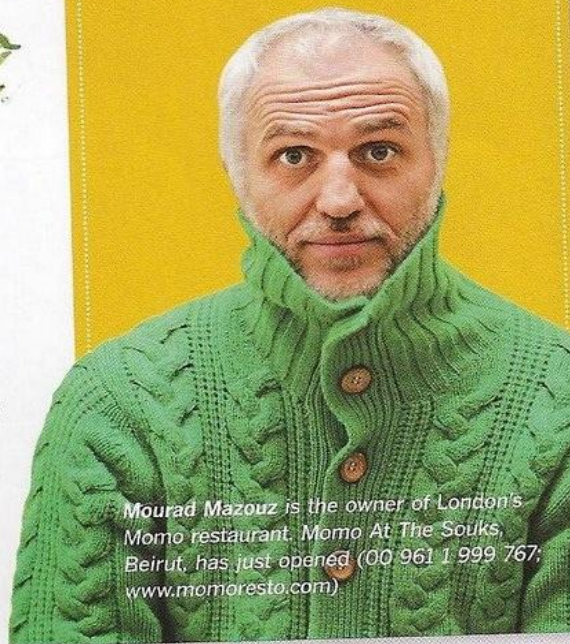
> **1PM** One of my favourite restaurants is **Tawlet** [Chalhoub Building, Naher Street; 00 961 1 448129] in Mar Mikhael – food is made by amateur cooks (rather than restaurant ones) from around Lebanon. Kamal Mouzawak, the owner, also co-founded Souk el Tayeb, an organic food market held every Saturday.

> **3PM** **Beirut Art Center** [www.beirutartcenter.org] is a wonderful contemporary gallery showing international and Middle Eastern artists. Afterwards, I'd cycle in Raouché along Beirut's beautiful Corniche.

> **7PM** I meet friends for drinks at the **Torino Express** [Gouraud Street], a cool but tiny bar in Gemmayze.

> **9PM** I love having dinner in **Casablanca** [Ain el Mreisseh, Corniche; 00 961 1 369334], a glamorous oriental eaterie. The food is delicious and the sea views are great.

> **12AM** We'll often do some serious dancing at **Behind the Green Door** [Nahr Street; 00 961 1 565656], a dark, sexy, late-night haunt, then finish with a last bite at Al Hana [Bourj Hammoud; 00 961 1 266297], which serves hummus all night.



Mourad Mazouz is the owner of London's Momo restaurant. Momo At The Souks, Beirut, has just opened (00 961 1 999 767; www.momoresto.com)