

Price £6/US\$12

# sphere.

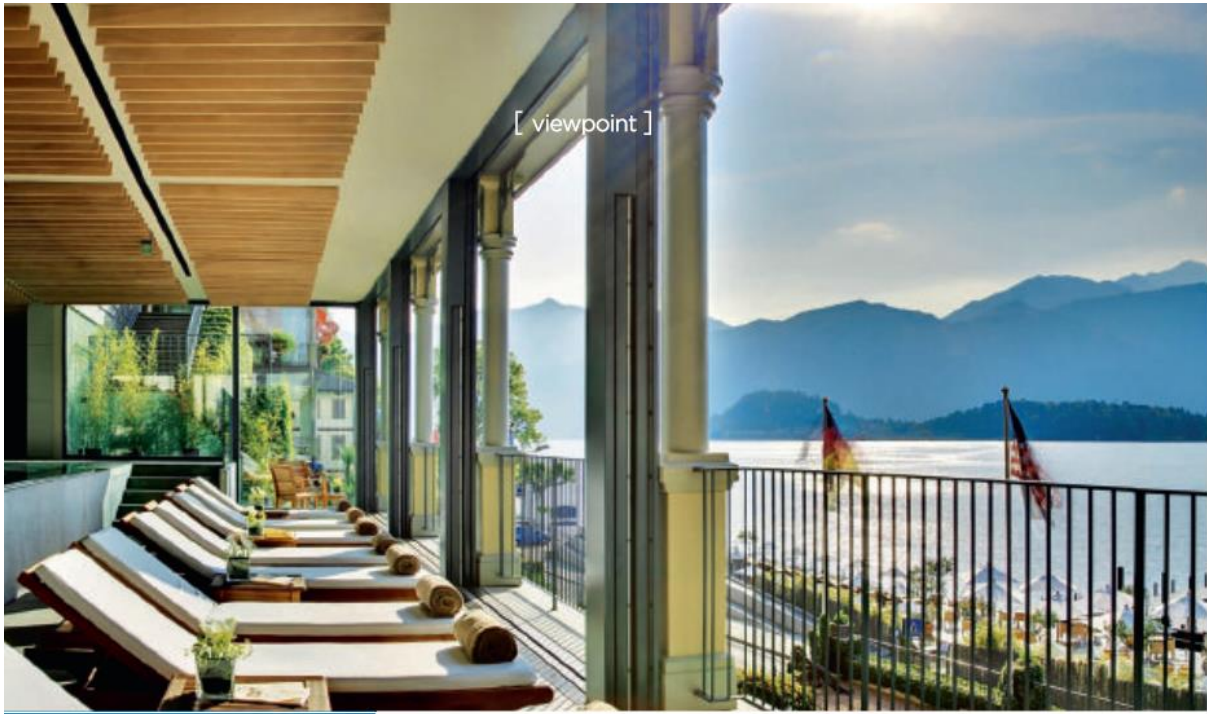
**HAVANA SIGHTS**  
A PRIVATE VIEW OF THIS  
EXPLOSIVE NEW ART SCENE

**A BANGKOK  
FAIRYTALE**  
HOW ONE MAN CHANGED  
THE NIGHTLIFE OF A CITY

**PULSE**  
The inside  
track on must-  
have watches  
and jewellery

**BETTER  
BY DESIGN**  
MEET THE HOTEL ARCHITECTS  
WHO ARE REDEFINING LUXURY

STYLE • TRAVEL • GOURMET • CULTURE • LUXURY • FASHION



## New in town

From Lake Como to Kyoto, this spring sees some exciting hotels opening their doors around the globe, including two that set sail.

Sunborn International ([www.sunborn.com](http://www.sunborn.com)) introduces luxury accommodation aboard super yachts to create a unique hotel experience. The prestigious Royal Victoria Docks will be home to **Sunborn London**, which, at 128 metres long, will offer 138 bedrooms and suites over five floors, as well as a fine-dining restaurant, bar, and spacious outdoor decks and terraces. Its Mediterranean counterpart, **Sunborn Gibraltar** (below right), will take prime position in the Ocean Village Marina and provide the first official five-star accommodations in the area.

If you prefer to stay on dry land, or even high above it, the **Shangri-La Hotel at the Shard** ([www.shangri-la.com](http://www.shangri-la.com)) in London opens in May so you can sleep among the clouds. Shangri-La also launches a hotel

in the heart of the Himalayas, **Shangri-La Hotel Lhasa** (left), which is perched on a plateau surrounded by mountains, glaciers and desert-like landscapes. Don't miss the **Shambala** restaurant, which serves traditional Tibetan cuisine in cosy, lantern-lit interiors.

Another exclusive alpine resort to open this year is the **Ritz-Carlton Kyoto** ([www.ritzcarlton.com](http://www.ritzcarlton.com)) (below left). Located on the River Kamogawa, in bustling Nijo Ohashi, and overlooking the Higashiyama Mountains, there is plenty on the doorstep to entertain guests. A beautiful Meiji house and courtyard also awaits, where the typical luxuries of a Ritz-Carlton hotel combine with authentic Japanese tradition.

For a European break, head to the refurbished **Grand Hotel Tremezzo** ([www.grandhoteltremezzo.com](http://www.grandhoteltremezzo.com)) (above) on stylish Lake Como in Italy. Lake-view rooms offer stunning vistas and the historic Suite Aurelia is adorned with antiques collected by the owner's aunt. The incomparable Italian food, wine and hospitality make this hotel a must-visit.

