



# TOWN & COUNTRY TRAVELER

SPRING/SUMMER 2012

## Surfing SAFARI

An Inside Guide to the World's Best Breaks

& TOP SURF CAMPS FOR BEGINNERS

## Thrills in the VILLAS

Vacation Rental Excess

PLUS: 10 TOP VILLAS EXPERT


8 GREAT DETOX SPAS

ITALY Beachy Secrets  
AFRICA For Gastronomes  
HAWAIIA Getaways  
MOROCCO Mystique

**D**IEHARD FISHERMEN WILL TRAVEL FAR AND wide for the opportunity to land a fish. Perhaps that is why even the most expensive fly-fishing camps have traditionally been somewhat single-minded, prioritizing sport over fine dining or thread counts. Take Ryabaga Camp, on Russia's Ponoï River. Despite an upgrade last year from tents to cabins, austerity is still the rule at this remote fishing haven. (Not that the salmon-obsessed billionaires who stay there seem to mind.)

But things are changing. The have-it-all fishing vacation is on the rise, and travel company Eleven Experience is leading the charge with two fall openings that will help the fly-rod set entice their non-fishing family and friends to come along with them. One is **Bahama House Inn**, a revamp of a colonial-era B&B in laid-back Dunmore Town. By day guests can prowl the flats between Harbour Island and North Eleuthera for hard-fighting bonefish and barracuda—or snorkel, dive, sail, or kitesurf. The other is **Taylor River Lodge**, which has six cabins and two single-family homes, in Crested Butte, Colorado. The lodge is slated to open in time for fall's Kokanee salmon run, with perks including Patagonia waders and other top-of-the-line fishing gear, massages, and guided mountain-bike trips.

Meanwhile, heli-fishing has greatly expanded the angler's reach. Montana's **Ranch at Rock Creek** recently added chopper access to tantalizingly underfished backcountry lakes and streams. (The fishing on the 6,600-acre property—which has five trout ponds and benefits from an annual salmon-fly hatch that begins in late May—remains exceptional.) The cabins are outfitted with soaking tubs, the dining room puts a highbrow spin on Montana-raised beef and chicken, and the saloon includes a four-lane bowling alley. Helicopter drop-offs are also an option at New Zealand's ultrasophisticated **Matakauri Lodge**, just outside the adventure hub of Queenstown. The new four-bedroom Owner's Cottage comes with a private chef and may just be the cushiest base for stalking the famously elusive brown and rainbow trout of the Southern Alps. While the defeated angler of yesterday might have hit the bottle, today's can hit the Matakauri spa for a coconut-shell exfoliation scrub. •



## REELING THEM IN

These grand new fly-fishing lodges will tempt even non-anglers to give this stillest of sports a try.

BY DARRELL HARTMAN

### BAIT AND HOOK

A fisherman casts on Snake River, outside Jackson Hole.