

# TATLER<sup>®</sup>

## TRAVEL GUIDE 2014



IN ASSOCIATION WITH  
AFRICA TRAVEL

# OUT OF THIS WORLD

The weird, the wild and the wonderful



## *Iniala Beach House*

PHUKET, THAILAND

Iniala is a sci-fi fantasy, a Dalí-esque dream scene where curvaceous villas rest like giant armadillos on the sand, where £120,000 cocoon beds seem to float in mid-air, where the womb-like private spas appear cast from solid gold. The wrapping has just come off, the paint is still drying, but we're already awestruck: there's a games room with a Swarovski crystal-clad pool table, a Michelin-starred Basque chef in the restaurant, a gym with original Andy Warhol prints of Muhammad Ali on the walls, and quite the fanciest kids' club, where future magnates can dress up, dance and dangle from treehouses. Everything about it is OTT – including the beach, an embarrassingly big swathe of silver sand with bright-white megayachts bobbing on the horizon. But it's a do-gooder too: the owner is philanthropic millionaire Mark Weingard, and 15 per cent of takings will go to his charitable Inspirasia Foundation. It's sci-fi with soul. **WEBSITE** iniala.com **BOOK IT** Cleveland Collection (clevelandcollection.co.uk/tatlertravel; 020 7843 3596) offers seven nights in a villa from £11,720, including transfers.

## *The Inn at John O' Groats*

JOHN O' GROATS, SCOTLAND

Want to get away, want to really escape, but dammed if you're leaving Blighty? It doesn't get more far-flung than John O' Groats (unless you continue on to the Orkneys, where everyone is related, or a sheep). A hefty two-year restoration of the derelict 1875 John O' Groats Hotel (abandoned for three decades by all but the resident ghost, the White Lady) has produced a hip boutique hideaway with a new Lego-coloured Scandi-chic extension. The 15 apartments are kitted out with Caithness stone, Scottish larch timber and bonny splashes of tartan, and the place is riddled with homegrown cool – a five-yard chandelier made from lobster creels and rope lights hand-knotted by local fishermen. Gaze over the little harbour, or venture out in the hotel's RIB for some dolphin- and killer-whale-spotting, before a spot of R&R in the wee spa. A bonny place to hunker down and soak up the wildest corner of fair Caledonia. **WEBSITE** naturalretreats.co.uk **TEL** 0843 636 7927 **BOOK IT** Double, from £70.



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WHEN PIKAI LODGE  
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VOLCANO, WITH ITS  
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RESERVE, DARWIN  
BOFFINS REJOICE.  
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