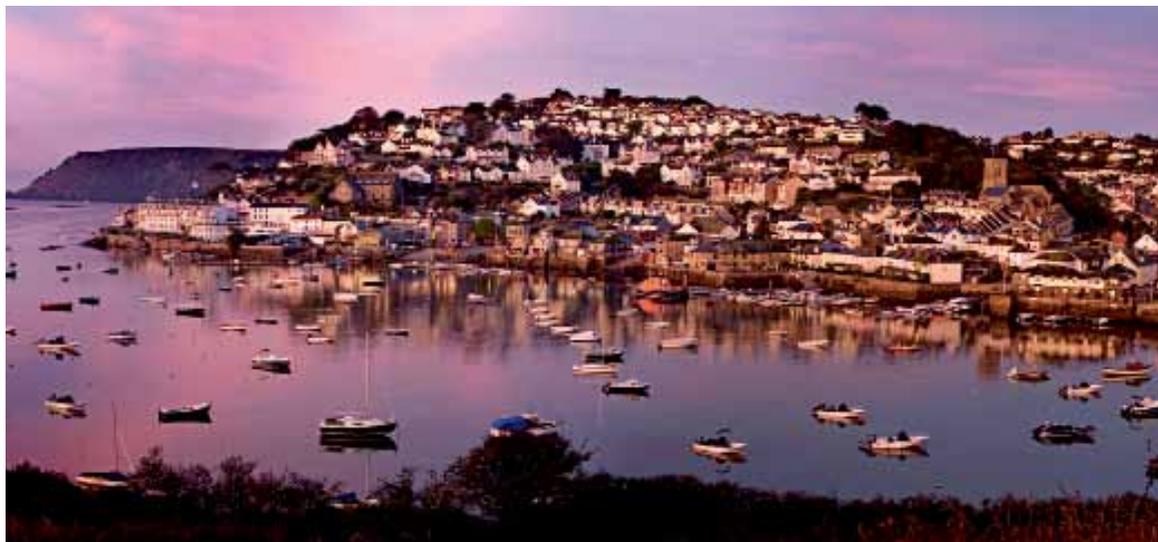


TOP TIPS

If there's one man who knows about packing, it's Globe-Trotters's Gary Bott

"Packing can be an art form. If you travel often you develop rituals: I always triple check my passport is in my carry-on bag. Onboard necessities, for me, are money, laptop, headphones, kindle and – for long-haul flights – eye mask and sleeping pills, plus sunglasses for arrival. When packing check-in luggage for a week or more I try to build my looks around one key piece, such as an unstructured blazer (always pack last and lay flat on top of your clothes to avoid creasing). The trick is packing just enough so you don't run out. Using every square inch of your suitcase saves valuable space, and a simple idea like rolling socks into shoes also helps retain shape. I always use my 33" Globe-Trotter suitcase with wheels. What's magic about this size is that even if you pack to capacity it never seems to weigh over the maximum check-in allowance. And because it is hard to pack this case to full, there's always room for shopping!"

The Original 33" costs £865 and is available at www.globetrotter1897.com



Go British

The sun is shining as we write this, and we're tempted to brave the staycation this summer. We'll do it in style, obviously, at the newly reopened Salcombe Harbour Hotel & Spa. After a multi-million pound refurbishment, the waterfront hotel reopens this month complete with a cinema room, waterside restaurant and wide outdoor terraces; all taking in the panoramic vista, overlooking one of the most dramatic coastlines in the UK. A coastal retreat spa will be fully operational by October, but perhaps most exciting, though, is that chef patron Alex Aiken (who retained a Michelin star in the New Forest and Dorset for 14 years) has designed the menus for the hotel's Jetty restaurant, where the focus will be on the Crustacean Bar. We're simply salivating at the promise of all the fresh local catch of the day.

Room prices from £295 per night with breakfast. Cliff Road, Salcombe, South Devon, TQ8 8JH (08448 589187; www.salcombe-harbour-hotel.co.uk)



The magic of Montenegro

Fresh off the plane, we're already dreaming about our next holiday in paradise. And having heard rumours of a new development in Montenegro's breathtaking Luštica Bay, we're considering making it an altogether more regular thing.

A community of studio, one-, two- and three-bedroom marina-side apartments and villas, all beautifully designed to reflect the local architecture and environment, is being built around a 120-berth marina. On one side wooded mountains with cascading waterfalls, on the other the aquamarine Adriatic. Picture stone houses with bougainvillea-filled loggias, nestled around a bustling harbour, promenades and arched store fronts sheltering the town's many lively cafés, restaurants and stores.

With the resort still very much in its infancy – the cornerstone was laid this summer, and work has just begun on a golf course designed by world-renowned Gary Player – now's the time to stake your claim to a slice of paradise.

Prices for residences at Luštica Bay start from €162,000 for a studio apartment. Villas start from €1,820,000 (www.lusticabay.com)