

OCTOBER 2013

# ForbesLife

THE 20 HOTTEST, COOLEST  
NEW HOTELS IN NORTH AMERICA

THE WORLD'S LAST GREAT EXPLORER  
AN UNKNOWN SWEDISH BILLIONAIRE

ILBUR ROSS  
AND HIS \$100 MILLION MAGRITTES

THE PERFECT:  
CALIFORNIA CABS  
POWER SUITS  
DINOSAUR AUCTION  
4 WATCHES  
POSTER COLLECTION

## Life in the Chill Lane

Zen at 200 mph: At Home With  
NASCAR Superstar **Jeff Gordon**



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## Features



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COVER STORY  
SHIFTING GEARS

Meet the new Jeff Gordon: the NASCAR legend who now, Zen-like, balances a happy home life with his (still) burning desire to take the checkered flag in race after race after race.

*By Hannah Elliott*



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JOURNEYS  
THE LAST EXPLORER

A visit to Siberia's immense Lake Baikal with billionaire Frederik Paulsen shows just how much of the Earth remains to be conquered.

*By Bruce Upbin*



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TRAVEL  
FORBES TRAVEL GUIDE'S HOT 20

Touching down in the likes of Park City, Aspen, Eleuthera and Los Cabos, we've combed North America to uncover the top luxury hotels and full-service retreats awaiting your arrival.

*From the Editors of the Forbes Travel Guide*



FORBES  
TRAVEL GUIDE

**HOT  
20**

*Where to be now  
in North America*

## Capella Washington, D.C.

GEORGETOWN

FORMER RITZ-CARLTON PRESIDENT and hospitality guru Horst Schulze founded the Capella Group in 2002 and has since opened luxury hotels from Singapore to Düsseldorf. The latest, debuting last spring, is this 49-room haven on a prime spot along Georgetown's C&O Canal. Two weeks before your arrival, your personal concierge calls to discuss everything you may need, including what you'd like in your minibar and what theater tickets you might enjoy. Soak up the views from the heated, indoor/outdoor infinity pool on the roof or relax by the two-story onyx fireplace in the Capella Living Room, available only to hotel guests.

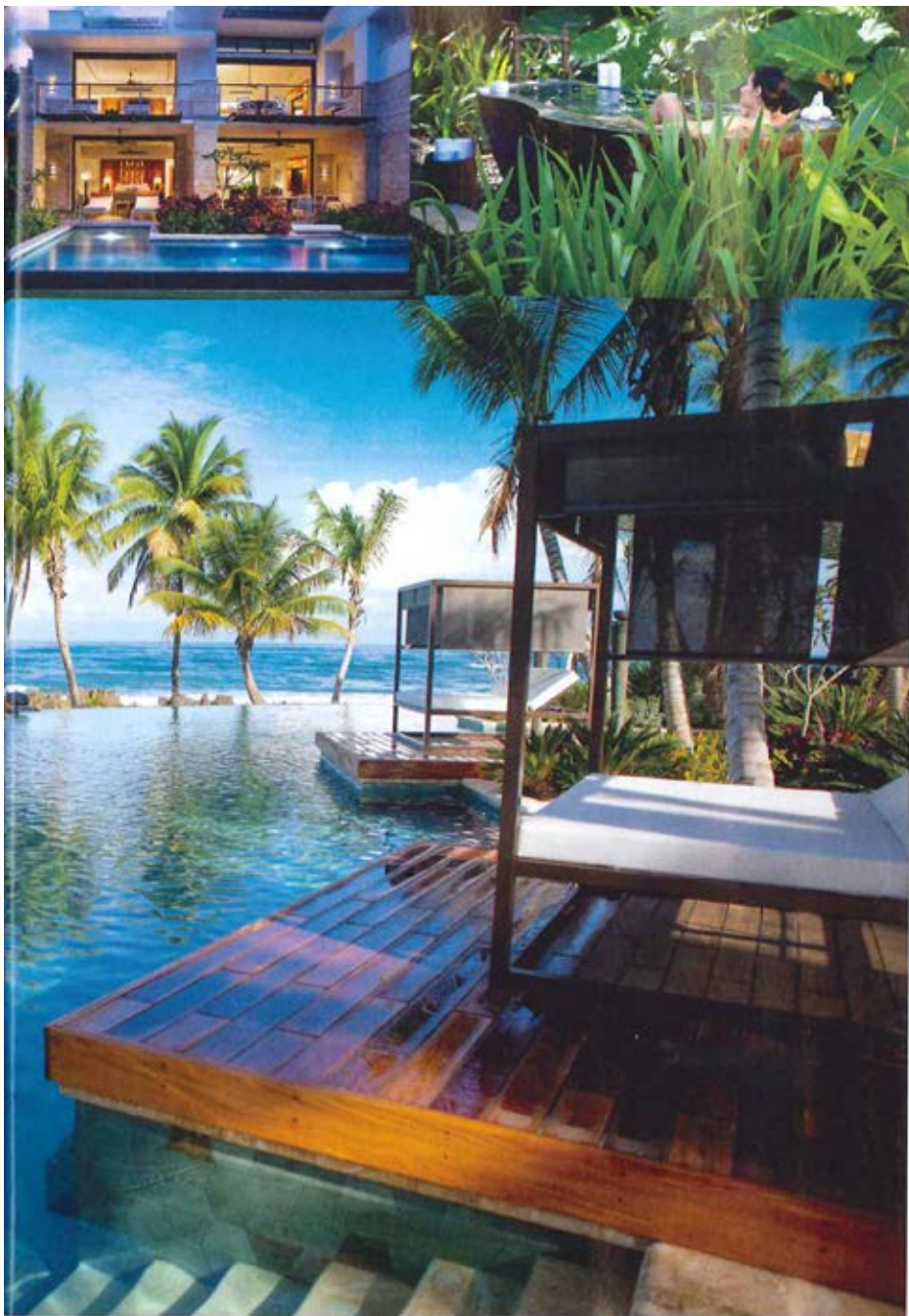


## Dorado Beach, A Ritz-Carlton Reserve

PUERTO RICO

LAURANCE ROCKEFELLER'S FORMER estate—and home to his former Dorado Beach RockResort—has become the site of Ritz-Carlton's second entry (after Thailand) for its new Reserve program, which seeks to create individualistic resorts in tune with natural settings. The job of integrating nature





and luxury works seamlessly here, partly because it's relatively small—with only 100 rooms on 50 acres—and partly through shrewd touches like outdoor garden showers and floor-to-ceiling glass doors that disappear into their frames. The restaurant, Mi Casa, by celebrity chef José Andrés, is sited with stunning views of the sea, as are the three golf courses originally laid out by Robert Trent Jones, Jr. (Hint for non-Tigers: the Pineapple Course was designed to be "friendlier.")

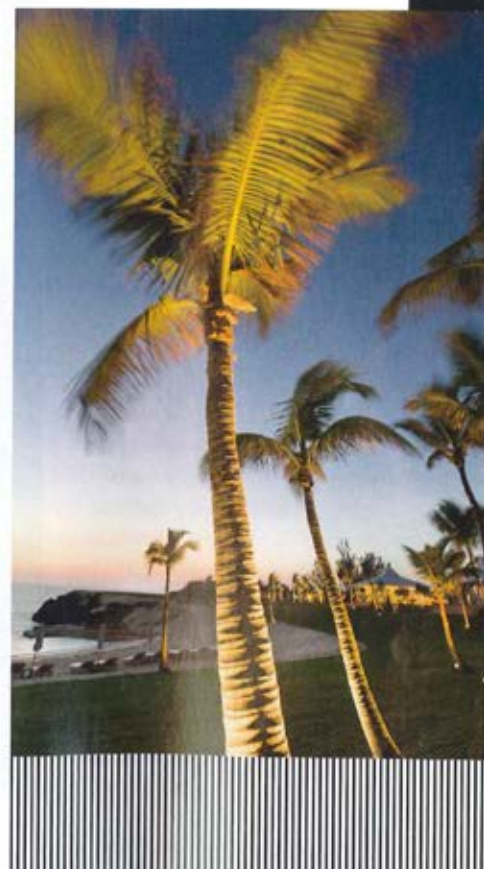
PHOTO COURTESY OF THE COVE



## The Cove

ELEUTHERA, BAHAMAS

NO LONGER ARE ALL OF Eleuthera's luxury travelers headed straight north to Harbour Island. What was once a bland and neglected 1960s-era Bahamian resort has been reborn in the hands of its new owner, New Orleans-based real estate and waste management entrepreneur Sidney D. Torres IV. Torres reopened the property, perched on a private 40-acre peninsula, in spring 2013, giving a streamlined, whitewashed look to the cottages, suites and guest rooms, and loading them with not-always-in-the-Bahamas touches like Nespresso coffeemakers, iPod docks and 50" flatscreen TVs. Top of the line are two 3,500-square-foot villas with private butler service and private pools. And, to ease the way, the resort offers the several-times-weekly Cove Express, a 45-minute direct flight from Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport.



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