



## ELITE INSIDER

NEWS FOR THE DISCERNING TRAVELER

June 23, 2010



### London Shopping Spree for Tots

51 Buckingham Gate, **Taj Suites and Residences** has the perfect formula for a family vacation, thanks to an exclusive partnership with Hamley's, the iconic London toy store. **Hamleys at 51** includes overnight accommodations for two adults and two children up to age 12, a Hamleys welcome hamper and personal shopping experience, plus a cooking or baking lesson in-suite, complete with personalized chef jacket for each child. Also included are four hours of babysitting, breakfast, evening cocktails, and complimentary sauna, steam and gym access. Rates start at £480 and include VAT.

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### A Bavarian Fairytale

Summer vacations are sure to have a fairytale ending for visitors to Germany and the **Alpenhof Murnau** – the ideal starting point for exploring the magical castles of Bavaria. **The Fairytale World of King Ludwig II** includes a two-night stay at the Alpenhof, admission to the fascinating Linderhof, Neuschwanstein and Hohenschwangau castles, a glass of champagne on arrival, full buffet breakfast and a three-course dinner. Guests also enjoy complimentary entrance to the Yavanna Wellness & Spa. Rates for the package start at €282 per person.

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### The Castle Life at a Less than Kingly Price

European travelers can enjoy the castle life this summer with very special rates on private chateau accommodations from the prestigious **Châteaux et Hôtels Collection**. Available July 1 - August 26, 2010, **La Vie de Chateau** rate represents up to a 30% discount on the most beautiful historical properties of the Collection – from Paris to the Bordeaux wine country. Based on room category, the three fixed rates are € 99, € 149 and € 199, per night for two people, with no minimum stay requirement.

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### Music Under the Stars on Lake Como...

The exclusive new **CastalDiva Resort** casts its spell on music lovers this summer with a special offer that includes tickets to the Festival Como Citta della Musica. July 1-18, guests can enjoy a **Music Under the Stars** package that includes two nights accommodations, gourmet breakfast, a ticket for an open-air performance at the historic Villa Olmo, and a candlelight dinner. Performances are July 1, 4, 6, 8, 13, 15, 17 and 18, and range from Don Giovanni to Momix. Rates begin at €689, per person, double occupancy.

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### ...And More Music Al Fresco in Central Park

For aficionados of opera, orchestra and open air, one week in July stands out on the Manhattan concert calendar. Just blocks from midtown's **Lombardy Hotel**, Central Park will be the site of world-class performances for three consecutive nights, July 12-14, including free concerts by the New York Philharmonic and the Metropolitan Opera. It begins Monday, July 12, with a Met in the Park concert at Summerstage, featuring soloists Nathan Gunn, Susanna Phillips and Michael Fabiano. Tuesday, July 13, the New York Philharmonic takes to the Great Lawn stage for a program of Tchaikovsky, Bernstein and Ravel, followed by a guest performance by the Shanghai Symphony Orchestra. Wednesday, July 14, the Philharmonic returns with Bradford Marsalis on saxophone. All concerts begin at 8 p.m.

Music lovers who take advantage of this "triple play" will find ideal accommodations at The Lombardy, with its convenient East 56th Street location and spacious studios and suites complete with kitchenettes.

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