

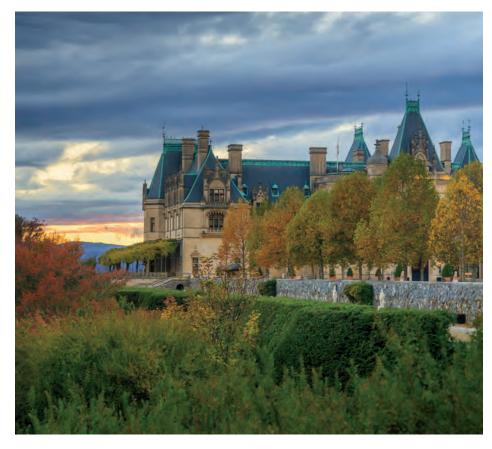
famed Four Seasons Ritz Lisbon, set on a hill among landscaped gardens with views over the city and the landmark Castelo de Sao Jorge. The impeccably preserved public spaces were created by revered design titan Henri Samuel, and the walls are hung with one of the largest and most important collections of Portuguese contemporary art anywhere. Outside, in the heart of the city, there's been an explosion of world-class, cutting-edge street art in recent years, and the hotel has crafted an exclusive private tour of the scene via vintage motorcycle and professional photo guide. DON'T MISS: To get a true taste of this seafaring nation, slip out for a day and book private lessons at one of the exceptional, prestigious sailing schools that are within an easy drive of Lisbon. 351-21-381-1400; ritzlisbon.com

## INN ON BILTMORE

ASHEVILLE. NORTH CAROLINA Indulge in the splendor of a Gilded Age country-house weekend without surrendering an ounce of 21st-century amenities at the Inn on Biltmore, the posh hotel on the estate of the storied chateau-style manse built by George Vanderbilt in the 1890s. Shoot skeet and sporting clays, go off-roading via Land Rover to rarely seen portions of the property, and fly fish with an Orvis-endorsed guide in the local trout river, then repair back to the inn for afternoon high tea. The Cottage, a two-bedroom retreat constructed in 1896, is a secluded on-site oasis whose private butler and chef mean that you'll never even have to mix with the hoi polloi. DON'T MISS: A stroll through the exquisite, sprawling grounds designed by iconic landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted, including a rose garden with more than 200 varieties and a stunning woodland that was America's first managed forest. 800-411-3812; biltmore.com

## THE MANSION AT MGM GRAND

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA Most people who visit Las Vegas's mammoth MGM Grand-one of the largest hotels in the world-never realize that on the property grounds lies a



The Cottage at the Inn on Biltmore's private butler and chef mean that you'll never have to mix with the hoi polloi.

ABOVE: Escape to the secluded beauty of the Biltmore in Asheville, North Carolina. BELOW: Explore Portugal's capital (center) from your weekend base at the Four Seasons Ritz Lisbon (left, the hotel's indoor lap pool, and right, its Varanda restaurant).







rare gem of a hotel-within-a-hotel so exclusive and tranquil that guests swear they feel transported to a different place and time. The Mansion at MGM Grand is a 290,000-squarefoot haven modeled on an 18thcentury Tuscan villa, complete with elaborate blossoming gardens and gurgling limestone fountains. The 29 suite-only accommodations are usually reserved for high rollers, but if you're lucky enough to snag a stay you'll experience the unparalleled levels of opulence and pampering for which the property has become justly known. Personal butlers and on-demand limo service are de rigueur, and the Mediterranean-style interiors are layered with antiques and priceless artworks. Guest quarters include over-the-top touches such as

baby grand (get it?) pianos, walk-in steam showers and private indoor pools. The whole thing is capped by an enormous glass atrium to ensure that, at least at The Mansion, it's always the perfect climate. DON'T MISS: The famous 18-course tasting menu at three-Michelin-starred Joël Robuchon, where Mansion guests receive VIP reservations. 877-880-0880; mgmgrand.com

Quebec's boutique Hotel Auberge Saint-Antoine is

the Francophile

INSET: The hotel's

French-Canadian,

weekender's best*ami*.

farmhouse-inspired restaurant, Chez Muffy.

## **HOTEL AUBERGE ST. ANTOINE**

*OUEBEC CITY, OUEBEC* To revel in the glorious, je ne sais quoi delights of Francophone culture without leaving North American shores, head directly to Quebec City, the oldest municipality on the continent and a UNESCO World Heritage site brimming with historic mansard-roofed houses and winding cobblestone streets. Check into the Hotel Auberge St. Antoine, an intimate Relais & Chateaux property renowned for its exquisite service and pitch-perfect cozy-luxe details. The hotel's singular design incorporates museum-worthy artifacts throughout, and the superlative staff will arrange a private walking tour of the preserved 17th-century ramparts and spectacular cliffside citadel-or you can take it all in via a heart-stopping helicopter ride over the Old City. DON'T MISS: A journey up the St. Lawrence River for an exclusive vineyard picnic on the scenic island of Orleans, then a stop at the shops back in town to score a keepsake in the emerging St. Roch neighborhood, oozing with edgy, irresistible charm. 418-692-2211; saint-antoine.com/en ■







camera. Michael Michael Kors. Michael Kors, 973-467-7500



Henri Bendel. 973-912-0681



\* Arrive Revived travel oil blend, Saje Saje, 973-376-7350



\* Foldable Pilot sunglasses, Tory Burch. Tory Burch, 973-379-2167



Hermessence customizable gift set Hermès. Hermès, 973-376-6843