

Eight Luxurious Honeymoon Adventures For 2019



Katie Kelly Bell Contributor 

I cover what's interesting in wine, spirits, food and travel.



Your "drive" to Minaret Station in New Zealand.

MINARET STATION

The honeymoon is a chance to restore and relax after the wedding blitz but it should also be one of the most memorable stays in your married life. Hotels and resorts today are doing more than ever to deliver on the memories with experiential and exceptional offerings. Below are a few that rise above—whether you are into horse racing, star gazing, or gorilla trekking, these options will keep the memories alive for years to come:



Torre de Palma Wine Hotel's Lusitano horse
TORRE DE PALMA

Horse Racing in Italy: Tuscany's [Rosewood Castiglion del Bosco](#) has all of the trappings of a pampered Italian retreat, and honeymooners should book one of their ultra-luxurious Tuscan villas created from restored 17th and 18th-century farmhouses. Each villa comes with a private heated pool and terraces. If your timing is right, (July 2 or August 16) you can take advantage of the hotel's exclusive access to the world's most famous horse race—The Palio di Siena. Riders are bareback in this high-intensity and colorful event that weaves its way through the streets of Siena. The Rosewood seats are ultra-prime real estate—up close with exclusive access to a private historical palace overlooking the Piazza. Of course, drinks and bites will be served and there will be a tour guide at your disposal. Only twice a year, July 2 or August 16. If May is a better month for your travels, and you are a [Marriott Bonvoy](#) member, consider a stay at the beautiful [Torre de Palma Wine Hotel](#) in Alentejo Portugal. Here you can ride horseback through their scenic vineyards on a pair of gorgeous Lusitano horses. Afterward, the hotel chef will guide you through a cooking class and finally to your private table for a special wine dinner. It's one of many cool experiences you can only book through the [Marriott Bonvoy Moments](#) website.

Gorilla Trekking in Rwanda: Stitched right along the edge of Rwanda's Volcanoes National Park you'll find the incomparable [Bisate Lodge](#), an eco-lodge that is part of [Wilderness Safaris](#). Both exotic and private (there are only six

villas) this destination offers the ultimate once-in-a-lifetime gorilla trekking experience. Experiences are not included in the stay---the lodge is a short drive to the park headquarters where guests can partake of daily gorilla treks.



Bisate Lodge
BISATE LODGE

YOU MAY ALSO LIKE

Forest Bathing in Japan: The Izu Penninsula in Japan is a World Geopark as designated by UNESCO—rich with hot springs, mountain and ocean views, and abundant nature. [ABBA Resorts Izu](#) has two new ultra-luxe suites from which to savor all the splendors of the peninsula---the Split Level Villa Suites. Each villa is comprised of a living room, a dining room with a kitchen on the first floor and bedroom on the second floor, overlooking the Sagami Bay. Both breakfast and dinner can be served in the privacy of your villa. Spend the rest of your time lounging around your private heated swimming pool, Jacuzzi and outdoor bath on the terrace.



Suite with pool
ABBA RESORTS

Stargazing in Hawaii: Maui's [Hotel Wailea](#) gets serious romance points for being an adults-only destination (and the first and only [Relais & Châteaux](#) property in the state of Hawaii), with views of three Hawaiian islands. They've amped up the honeymoon allure with a Romance Under the Stars experience. Five nights in an Ocean View Suite with a private 7-course dinner for two al fresco in the Treehouse, --a decadent space protected by a canopy of mango and avocado trees. The hotel takes the turndown to a new level with their signature CBD massage oil, a set of Lunya silk pajamas, and a stargazing guide. Settle back on your suite's private lanai and keep an eye out for meteor showers, stars, and constellations. If that's not enough, add in the property's signature Golden Osetra Caviar and Laurent-Perrier champagne turndown service to the experience.



The Treehouse at Hotel Wailea
HOTEL WAILEA

Exotic Cars in California: [Quail Lodge & Golf Club](#) in Carmel delivers on an adrenaline-fueled honeymoon experience with their new driving program for guests--The Quail Moto Rally Experience. You'll start with a bit of decision-making by browsing the vehicle selections. Choose from exotic sports cars to immaculately restored vintage vehicles—the program offers guests access to one of the largest selections of luxury vehicles from manufacturers around the world including Ferrari, Maserati, Porsche, Bentley, Range Rover and more. Once you select a car, head out along any one of four routes with pre-arranged stops.

Yachting in Hong Kong harbor: [The Peninsula Hong Kong](#) recently launched a new Peninsula Yacht, available for couples to book at sunset and view Hong Kong's iconic Symphony of Lights, or go on a private charter for specialty lunches, cocktails, and elegant photoshoots. This offering rounds out the hotel's fleet of Rolls-Royce Phantoms and a customized helicopter. Private charters also include The Peninsula's onboard catering service.



The Peninsula Luxury Yacht -- Harbour Sunset Cruise

THE PENINSULA

Helicoptering in New Zealand: Just south of Christchurch New Zealand, the elegant [Otahuna Lodge](#) offers guests a menu of spectacular forays into the best of New Zealand's ample natural wonders. You'll have to pull yourself away from the property's plush environs for a day, but their curated experiences are worth it. The Akaroa Experience includes a chance to swim with the world's rarest and smallest dolphins---Hector's Dolphins. You can also look into sea caves via kayak, or visit the rim of an extinct volcano. They also have arrangements with TranzAlpine, a train ride that weaves you through the majesty of the South Island's Alps and finishing in Arthur's Pass National Park. Once in the park, your private guide will lead you along a trail of mossy forests and glacial streams and waterfalls. Close the day with a stopover at the monolithic limestone outcroppings of Castle Hill --where some of *The Chronicles of Narnia* was filmed. For an even more remote experience, consider booking a stay at [Minaret Station](#). Accessible *only* by helicopter, you'll own the mountainside along with scant few other guests and a stable of staff. You can arrange all manner of helicopter excursions from skiing to fishing remote alpine waters.



Otahuna Lodge New Zealand

OTAHUNA LODGE

For the best in wine, spirits, food and travel follow me on Instagram [HERE](#) and Twitter [HERE](#).



Katie Kelly Bell Contributor

I've been trotting the globe in pursuit of wine, food and travel stories for over 16 years. From the vineyards of New Zealand to the press houses of Champagne, I've met ... **Read More**