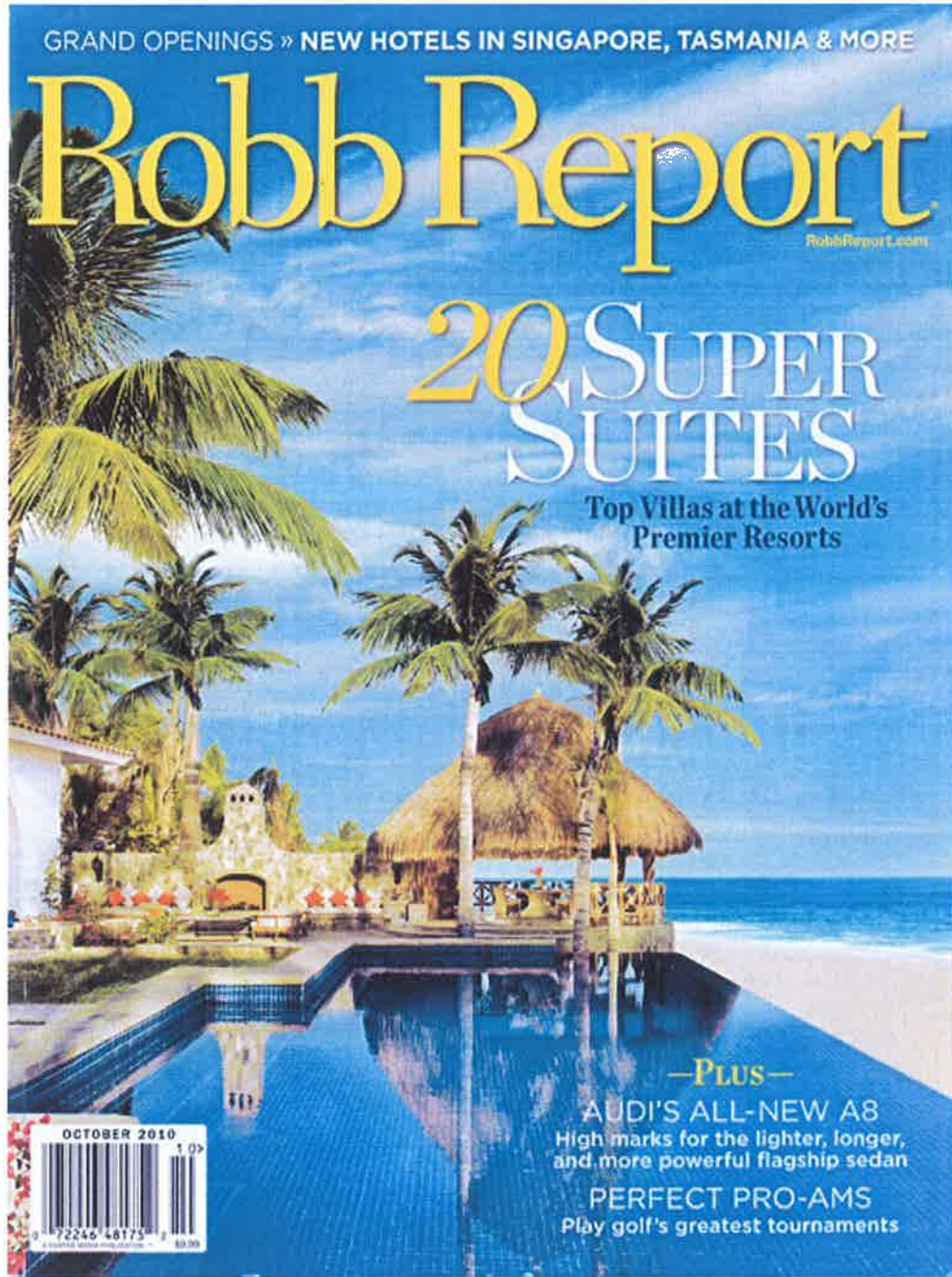
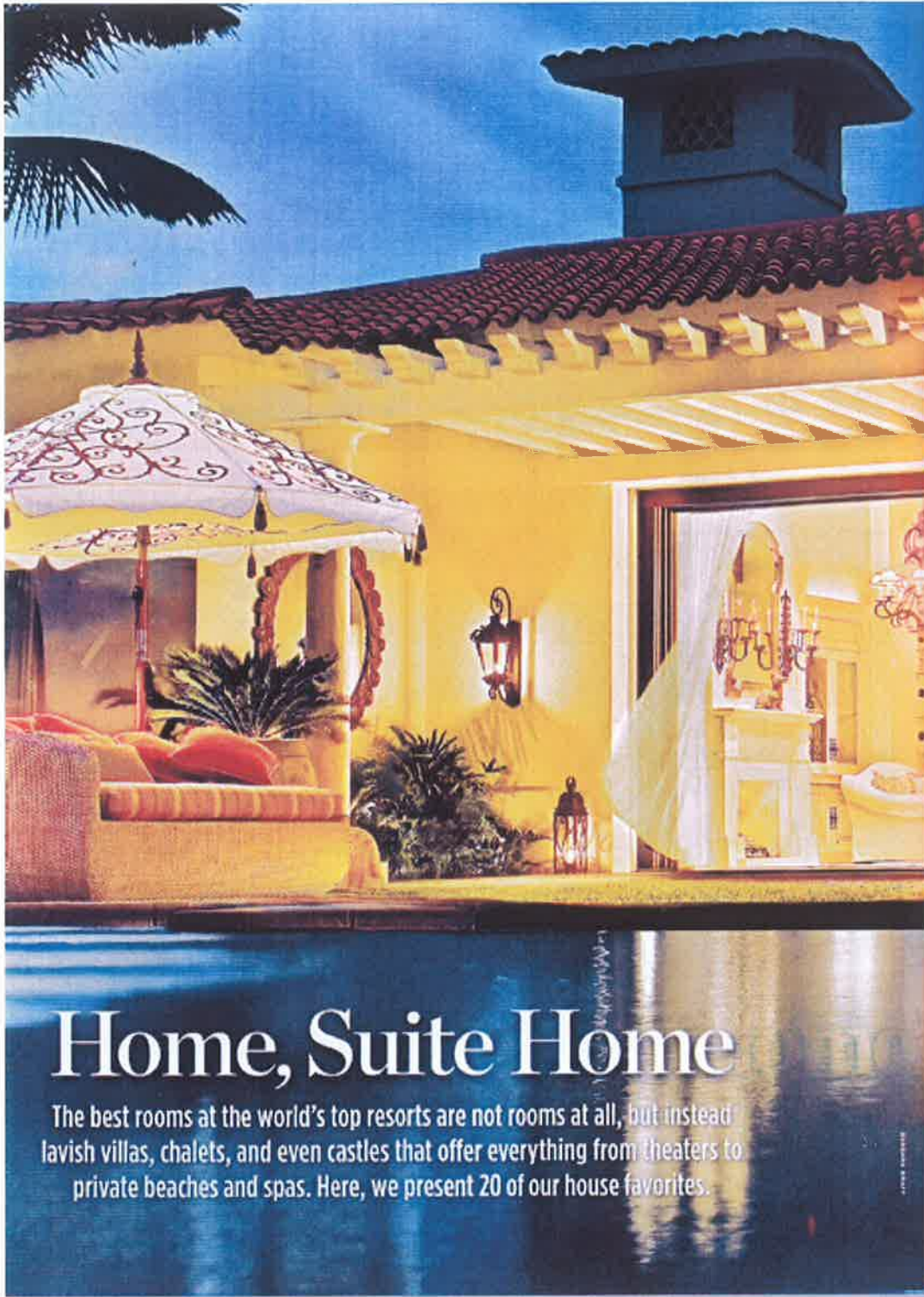


parasol



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# Home, Suite Home

The best rooms at the world's top resorts are not rooms at all, but instead lavish villas, chalets, and even castles that offer everything from theaters to private beaches and spas. Here, we present 20 of our house favorites.

HOME, SUITE HOME California • Barbados



Casa Elar



The Villa at Sandy Lane

### CASA ELAR at Ojai Valley Inn & Spa

**THE RESORT** • A 90-minute drive northwest from Los Angeles, Ojai Valley Inn & Spa offers solace for city slickers amid 220 acres of oak trees, golf course greens, and herb gardens. The resort's 308 rooms and suites are housed within a few Spanish Colonial-style buildings scattered throughout the property's rolling hills. Guests can walk or take a golf cart to the new Spa Village, the Artist's Cottage (where in-house and local artists teach hotel guests), any of four swimming pools, the tennis courts, the fine-dining Marzavilla

Restaurant, or the 87-year-old Ojai Country Club golf course.

**THE VILLA** • In 2005 the owners of the Ojai Valley Inn completed a 10,500-square-foot home intended for visiting friends and family. Now available as a rental, the five-bedroom Tuscan-style Casa Elar overlooks tree-covered hillside, Ojai Country Club's 7th fairway, and a landscaped backyard with a pool. Each of the bedrooms offers all the components of a five-star hotel suite, and the master suite ups the ante with his and her bathrooms and an adjacent spa room. Staff members include a pre-arrival concierge, a butler, housekeepers, a chef, a personal trainer, a golf pro

and caddy, and a masseuse.

**THE HIGHLIGHT** • Playing chess, Risk, or any of Casa Elar's limited-edition board games in the family room, which is equipped with floor-to-ceiling bookshelves, a bar, and a Crestron entertainment system.

**THE PRICE** • From \$15,000 per night for as many as 10 guests. 805.646.1111, [www.ojaiinn.com](http://www.ojaiinn.com)

—JENNIFER RYAN

### THE VILLA at Sandy Lane

**THE RESORT** • Pink lounge chairs and umbrellas dot the crescent-shaped beach at Sandy Lane, a 113-room Barbados resort that dates to 1961. In addition to a beach club—which offers kayaking, banana-boat rides, and other water sports—the resort features a tennis club with nine courts and a golf club with three courses (including the Tom Fazio-designed Green Monkey). An 11-suite spa offers such Bajan-flavored treatments as a sugarcane scrub combined with a banana-leaf wrap and a massage.

**THE VILLA** • Days at the five-bedroom, 7,900-square-foot Villa at Sandy Lane might begin with a one-on-one yoga session in the garden, followed by a dip in your private pool and Jacuzzi. Next, wander down to the beach on a private path or indulge in the Chakra Hot Stone massage on one of two patios. Dinner, cooked by the villa's chef and served by your butler, can be enjoyed in the formal dining room or the garden gazebo. Heads of household retire to the master suite, complete with his and her bathrooms and dressing areas.

**THE HIGHLIGHT** • Guests of the villa have the benefit of unlimited golf on two of Sandy Lane's courses.

**THE PRICE** • From \$9,000 per night for as many as 14 guests. 246.444.2090, [www.sandy lane.com](http://www.sandy lane.com)

—JANIS GEORGE NEWMAN