

◀ the coast is a 20-minute drive away). All its 101 expansive villas have private pools, even the 31 “Bedouin-style” tented ones. Purists take note: this is Bedouin styling à la mode, complete with plasma-screen TV, Wi-fi, air-con, minibar et al.

Not that nomadism need be incompatible with style. From November 17 to 20, Christie’s (www.christies.com) in **PARIS**

stages a second series of auctions of property belonging to Yves Saint Laurent, among it a set of Vuitton luggage and three crocodile-skin Hermès suitcases. Almost 1,200 items will feature, many from Château Gabriel, the home he shared with Pierre Bergé in Normandy.

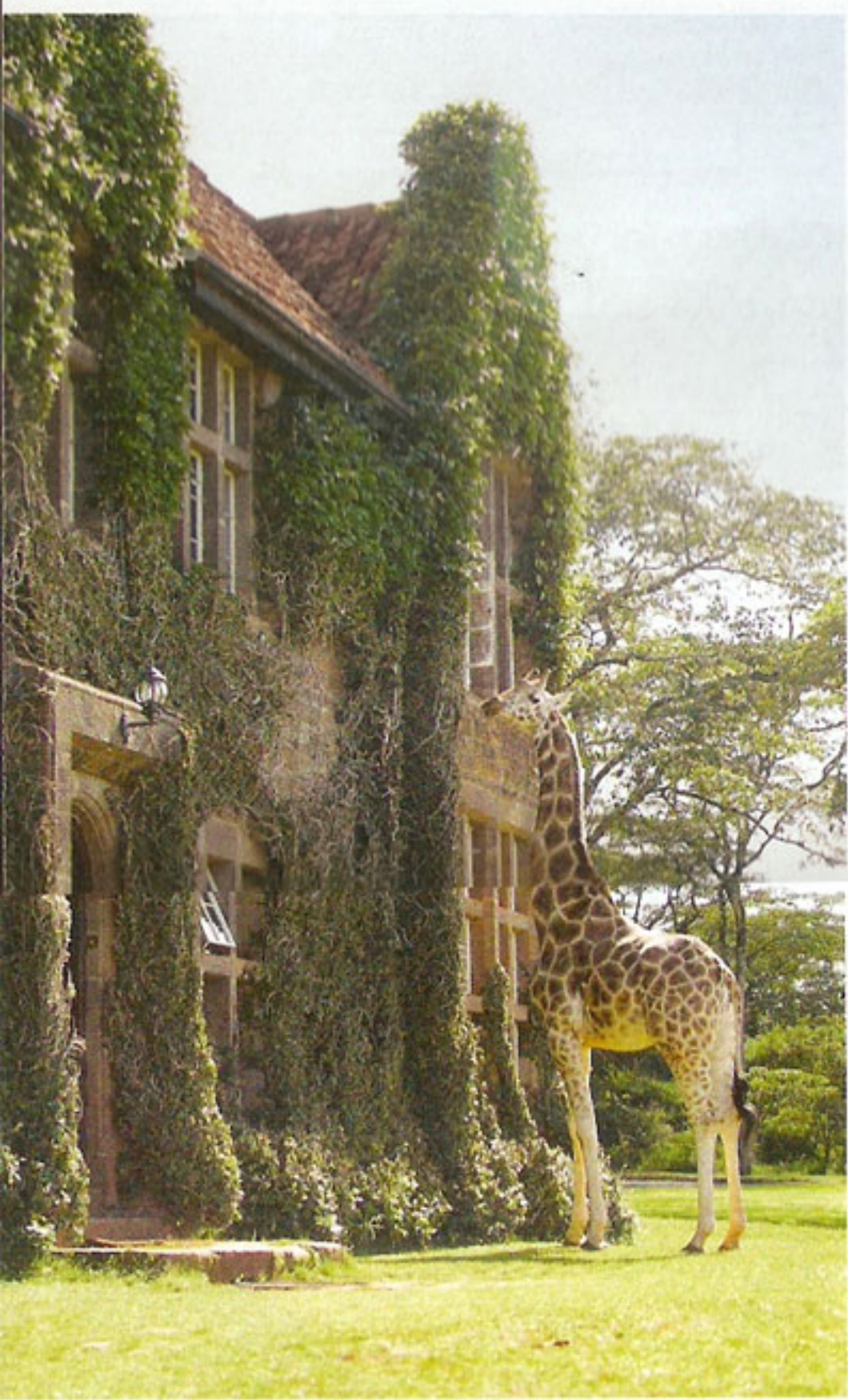
Also new in Paris is the Hôtel Jules (www.hoteljules.com; doubles from €150), near the Palais Garnier. It is the latest offering from hotelier Grace Leo, creator of the Montalembert, hence the cool, modish interiors.

As it happens, the exquisite interiors of YSL’s Château Gabriel were designed by Jacques Grange, who has recently turned his attention to the overhaul of The Mark (www.themarkhotel.com; doubles from \$670) in **NEW YORK**, the latest grand hotel to open on the Upper East Side. Those who’d prefer a boutique hotel, however, might do better downtown at the new 86-room Crosby Street Hotel (www.firmdale.com; doubles from \$571), a block east of Broadway in SoHo. The first overseas outpost from English hoteliers Kit and Tim Kemp, it deserves to stand out, not least for its arresting use of colour and the Jaume Plensa installation in the lobby. There are further examples of Plensa’s work in the city’s Museum of Modern Art, which marks the 90th anniversary of the Bauhaus design movement’s foundation with a major retrospective. *Bauhaus 1919-1933: Workshops for Modernity* (November 8 to January 25; www.moma.org) includes work by Marcel Breuer, Walter Gropius, Vasily Kandinsky, László Moholy-Nagy and Paul Klee, among others.

Moma’s collection also runs to several works by Julian Schnabel, a less surprising revelation than the fact that the new Majlis hotel (www.themajlisresorts.com; doubles from €480 full board) on Manda Island in Kenya’s **LAMU** archipelago does too. In the dining room of the 25-room beach hotel hang a couple of Schnabels, as well as a gilded elephant head by Armando Tanzini. To reach Lamu, you’ll probably need to overnight in **NAIROBI**, in which case the refurbished Giraffe Manor (www.giraffemanor.com; doubles from \$645) makes a practical stopover. Just 30km from the airport, this former Scottish-baronial hunting lodge has been acquired by the Carr-Hartley family, who also own Sala’s Camp in the Masai Mara. There is a safari element here too, as eight rare Rothschild giraffes roam the grounds. ♦



Above: view from the restaurant at Majlis hotel, Lamu. Below: Paul Klee’s *Fire in the Evening*, 1929, at the Museum of Modern Art, New York.



Above: a rare Rothschild giraffe at Giraffe Manor near Nairobi. Below: the sand dunes of Rub’-al Khali (Empty Quarter).



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