



Globetrotter

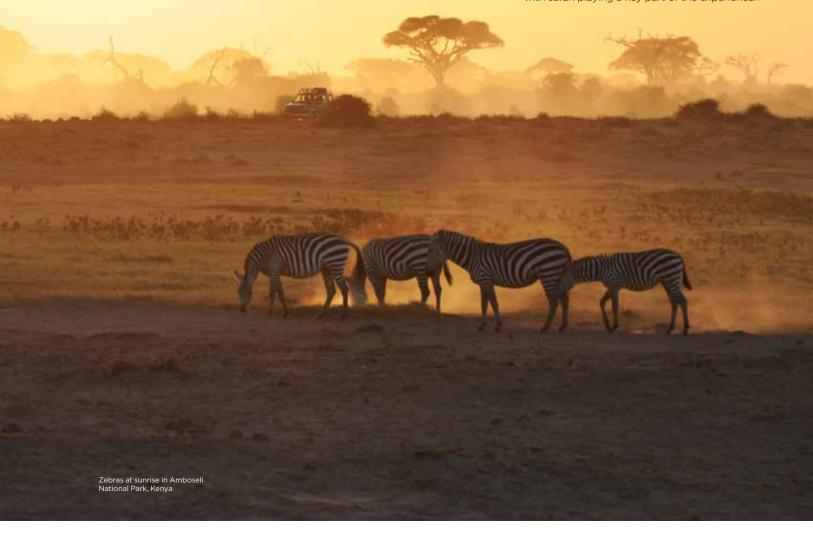
From finding your ikigai in Okinawa to basing your itinerary on your emotions, we've rounded up what's hot in travel for this year

SPIN THE GLOBE

If you can't decide where to head to next, let our insider travel intel set you on the right track...

AFRICA'S BIG MOMENT
Arguably one of the best continents for culturally rich traditions, wildlife and exquisite landscapes, Africa offers diverse destinations and it's set to shine in 2018. "We have noted a rise in the level of interest into Africa especially South Africa and Kenya – and we expect the trend to continue," says Maggie Bootsman, Manager, Travel Counsellors UAE, which works in partnership with dnata Travel.

South Africa has also topped Virtuoso's 2018 Luxe Report as 2018's top adventure destination, with safari playing a key part of the experience.



TO THE BEACH Be among the first to feel the sand between your toes at one of these beachfront properties opening in 2018.

Four Seasons Resort Seychelles at **Desroches Island.** This luxurious hotel is in a natural jungle setting - think treetop villas and deserted beaches. Cool off in the infinity-edge plunge pool.

COMO Uma Canggu. Set to open in February in the coastal village of Canggu (Bali's latest 'it' place), this property features three-bedroom duplex penthouses with individual rooftop pools and great surfing opportunities. Baglioni Maldives. Find this slice of paradise, set for a spring debut, on the island of Maagu in the Dhaalu atoll, a 40-minute seaplane ride from Malé. Montage Los Cabos. This plush beachfront resort in Cabo San Lucas. Mexico has walk-in access to some of the best swimming, diving and snorkelling in the region, as well as wellness programmes offered at Spa Montage.











FAMILY VALUES Travelling with kids in tow can present some epic challenges, but hotels offering all-inclusive packages and added extras are getting the thumbs up from parents, hints dnata Travel's Rob Arrow. Thrillseekers should head to Lapita, Dubai Parks and Resorts, Autograph Collection Hotels in Dubai, which offers

complimentary tickets to all four theme parks: Legoland Dubai, Legoland Water Park, Motiongate Dubai and Bollywood Dubai - with all rooms booked. Yas Vicerov Abu Dhabi is another good choice. Overlooking Yas Marina Circuit, it is in the thick of all the action and entertainment, including Ferrari World Abu Dhabi, Yas Beach, and Yas Waterworld.

"Another new trend that will continue in 2018 is that expat families living in the UAE are holidaying together and Sri Lanka, just a four-and-a-halfhour flight from Dubai, Sharjah or Abu Dhabi airport, is a top pick," says Maggie Bootsman. "Rather than stay in a resort, they are opting for familyfriendly villa accommodation."