IF YOU LOVE LA MAMOUNIA IN MARRAKECH, TRY DAR AHLAM IN OUARZAZATE

TWO VERY GOOD ARGUMENTS TO TAKE A CRUISE RIGHT NOW

WITH THE KIDS...

Not long ago, I was enjoying a blissfully adult dinner—a petite champenoise with a champagne cocktail—at Remy, the best restaurant on the Disney Dream. Before the trip, I knew Disney’s magic would charm my kids. How could it not, with Elsa and Anna wandering the decks or the Jedi Training Academy inside the ship’s very own Millennium Falcon? What I wasn’t expecting was for the alchemy to work on me.

That had a lot to do with our calming and surprisingly quiet deluxe oceanview stateroom, which had its own private veranda. It’s where my wife and I had our vacation, sipping sparkling wine while the kids whooped it up with Rex and Slinky Dog in a replica of Andy’s room from Toy Story. And though the Dream sails admittedly predictable Caribbean itineraries—a major stop is the private Castaway Cay—other Disney ships are bound for more exotic ports like Bergen, Cartagena, Lisbon, and even St. Petersburg. For us, there’s always next year. - ZACH EVerson

...OR WITHOUT

Paddling a sea kayak through a desolately beautiful Norwegian fjord, touring the Taj Mahal at dawn when the light is best for taking pictures, exploring the sixteenth-century colonial churches of Ollinda, Brazil: Forget everything you thought you knew about stodgy cruise-ship shore excursions. Seabourn, among other smartened-up cruise lines, is partnering with UNESCO to offer intimate group day-trips that don’t feel like you’re eating your vegetables, with experts demystifying iconic sites like Petra, Jordan, and Australia’s Kakadu National Park. Also trending: itinera that are designed to let passengers spend a night away from the ship, making inland destinations such as Angkor Wat or Mandalay suddenly accessible by sea. And while these decadent vessels have lavish spas and large staterooms reminiscent of whitewashed Mediterranean hotels, it’s those transporting, land-bound moments that will make you rethink how you’ll get to see that next destination on your wish list. - CAROLYN SPENCER BROWN

4 OTHER CRUISES TO BOOK: Crystal Cruises, Norwegian Cruise Line, Oceania Cruises, Windstar Cruises

THE HOTELS TO CHECK OUT EVEN IF YOU’re NOT CHECKING IN

Auberge du Soleil Napa Valley Have one more cabernet on the terrace at sunset.

The Carlyle, A Rosewood Hotel New York After all these years, it’s still all about Bemelmans, baby.

Chiltern Firehouse London Marylebone’s hottest night out. Wait, is that the Beckhams?

Fairmont Peace Hotel Shanghai Ogle the soaring and impeccably preserved Art Deco lobby. 

Gravetye Manor Sussex, England Literally wrote the book on English gardens.

Halokulani Honolulu Dress up a bit and knock back a mai tai at L’Aperitif.

Hotel Fasano São Paulo Have you been to the sexy jazz club off the lobby?

Hotel Grande Bretagne Athens For a rooftop lunch with views of the Acropolis.

Softel Legend Santa Clara Cartagena Take a wander in the jungly courtyard gardens.

The Upper House Hong Kong Drink up Asia’s greatest skyline from the 48th-floor bar.