



NAKED STABLES PRIVATE RESERVE

Luxury and sustainability fuse well in this spa resort and equestrian reserve built in the scenic Moganshan Hills in Zhejiang province, just two-and-a-half hours from Shanghai. A bird's-eye view of the property shows simple, tree-top and hut-like villas that fit in picturesquely in this private valley. The villas and Earth Huts were constructed using industry-leading sustainable materials — complementing cutting-edge construction technology with local traditional construction methods like mud walls, bamboo structures and stone masonry. The villas and huts are spacious with private balconies and Jacuzzis. Especially lovely is the presence of horses and ponies at the stables — riding instruction is provided, and you may explore the hills and trails on horseback.

www.nakedretreats.cn



BANYAN VELAA CRUISE

The Maldivian experience just got that much better with the refurbishment of Banyan Velaa, the only Turkish *gulet* — a 30m

wooden sailing craft with two masts. It can accommodate up to 12 guests in six mahogany cabins (with *en suite* bathrooms). Choose from one- to three-night adventure cruises that head to stunning dive spots at different atolls. Not just for diving enthusiasts, the stopovers include snorkelling areas, beach picnics, sandbank dining and island visits to get a glimpse at local life.

Vabbinfaru Island, North Malé Atoll, maldives@banyantree.com, www.banyantree.com



ARIARA ISLAND

Private islands are always a fabulous option when indulging in the luxe life. Just under 300km away from Manila, Ariara Island in Palawan is a beautiful, exclusive retreat. Book the entire island for up to 18 guests, and spread them out among the beach cottages, jungle villas and suites. The lodge is the place to congregate at for meals and entertainment. All rooms have unobstructed views of the sea and neighbouring islands. And cleverly, the resort faces west, so you'll never miss a sunset.

Ariaraisland.com