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Embark on an unforgettable journey through lush landscapes, lively beach resorts and vibrant cultural capitals that hum with life

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CULTURAL HIGHLIGHT



SCENIC SPOT

SUSTAINABLE STAY

> Mayan temples in Tikal, Guatemala

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Three incredible properties along Mexico's sun-soaked Riviera Maya are giving travellers the opportunity to see the best of this remarkable coastline. After flying into Cancún, head straight to the just-opened Eteréo, Auberge Resorts Collection, a homage to

Mexican art and craftsmanship, with a unique wellness programme that features aerial yoga, detoxifying Mayan clay wraps and crystal healing. Next up is the legendary Hotel Esencia, once the private home of an Italian duchess, and now transformed into a chic boutique hotel with two swimming pools and a glorious sense of old-school glamour. An exceptional Japanese restaurant, Taiyo, joins the hotel's Beef Bar outpost and the seafood grill Mistura. Lastly, journey south

town's boutiques and eateries. www.aubergeresorts.com;

www.hotelesencia.com; www.lavalise.com

to Tulum, where the boho-chic La Valise

and its sister property Nest prove the

perfect bases for exploring the beach

lamboyant carnival parades, ancient Mayan citadels cloaked in jungle and vast stretches of picture-perfect palm-fringed beaches: these are just a few of the extraordinary sights Latin America has to offer. Today, they are increasingly within our reach, thanks to an excellent network of flight connections and well-paved roads that enable travellers to explore the remotest regions of Patagonia or venture deep into the Amazon rainforest. Cutting-edge hotels are springing up in scenic locations - Explora's new property (www.explora.com) in Argentina's Los Glaciares National Park is a prime example - and there's a wider range of experiences to try than ever: learn to prepare traditional Peruvian dishes at a cookery school in Lima, take part in Mexico's vibrant Day of the Dead celebrations or contribute to wildlife-conservation projects. One thing is certain: a trip to Latin America will capture your heart. Sarah Bradley

Above and right: La Valise. Bottom: Eteréo



Left and below: Hotel Esencia. Right and below right:

CELESTIAL BLISS Posada Ayana, Uruguay

A family-run retreat near Uruguay's fashionable beach resort of José Ignacio, Posada Ayana has a 16-metre saltwater infinity pool, a charming outdoor terrace and 17 guestrooms decorated with vintage furniture. The B&B is just steps away from the Ta Khut Skyspace, an ethereal structure by the American artist James Turrell that has to be seen to be believed.

