

TATLER

DECEMBER £4.50

IS YOUR PARTNER HAVING AN AFFAIR? HOW TO FIND OUT

ARE YOU A NARCISSIST? THE DEFINITIVE TATLER QUIZ

FREE QUEEN CHRISTMAS FAIRY

FINISHING SCHOOL FOR DOGS

THE MOST ELIGIBLE PEOPLE IN THE LAND
YIPPEE! LITTLE BLACK BOOK IS BACK...

INTRODUCING ELLA HOPE MERRYWEATHER

Sparkle time!

TRAVEL

PERFECT PERU

Ancient meets modern in Lima, where you can see Inca pyramids and art curated by Mario Testino in the same day. But if you want to try one of the huge Amazonian snails, we suggest a couple of pisco sours first... By Beatriz Choi



EAT UP

Here for the food? Make a beeline for the Miraflores district. Central, with its Michelin-star chef, is the place for an Andean-inspired tasting menu, or head to El Mercado for the freshest ceviche and a glass or two of (strong) pisco sour. For exotic Amazonian fare, go to Amaz, where you'll be served snails the size of your fist. Back in Barranco, try the traditional home-style cooking at Isolina – the rack of pork ribs is enormous.

DON'T MISS

A stroll on the Malecón, a six-mile pedestrianised walkway and bike path that stretches along the coast, to watch the sun set over the rolling Pacific.

FIRST THINGS FIRST

Swot up on your Peruvian history with Aracari city expert John Alfredo Benavides, who'll march you around Lima's old centre to see *huacas* (ancient ceremonial sites that look like pyramids) and pretty colonial buildings. Then it's to the Larco museum of pre-Columbian art to learn about the people who lived here long before the Spanish arrived. Or you can do the contemporary scene – check out MAC (the Museum of Contemporary Art), Mario Testino's MATE and the Museo Pedro de Osma.

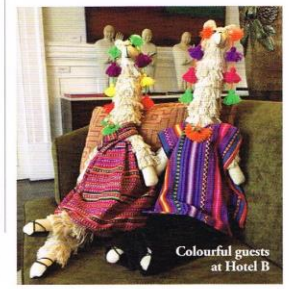
CULTURE TRIP

Stroll around Lima's coolest neighbourhood, the artsy, bohemian Barranco, with Aracari tour guide Maria Julia Raffo. She knows EVERYONE and is just the person to introduce you to top fashion studios Meche Correa and new kid on the block Escudo. Both are big on Peru's traditional culture, so expect popping colours and folksy influences.

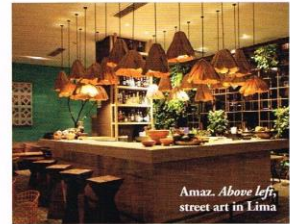
HOT SNOOZE

The city's swankiest boutique hotel is Hotel B in a renovated early-20th-century mansion in Barranco. Do your morning downward-

dog on the rooftop and have *lonche* (afternoon tea) with homemade Peruvian hot chocolate in the Belle Epoque-style lounge. With over 200 artworks on display, the hotel acts as an extension of the Lucía de la Puente gallery next door. And don't miss nearby Artesanías Las Pallas, a gorgeous shop run from her house by British expat Mari Solari, who moved here in the Sixties: two rooms of the most covetable arts and crafts from all over Peru.



Colourful guests at Hotel B



Amaz. Above left, street art in Lima

GET AROUND

What locals SHOULD tell you is that the traffic is terrible and public transport scarce. Call Aracari – they'll organise insiders to ferry you around. Most exciting option: getting a guide with a Vespa to whizz past gridlocked traffic.

BOOK IT

Aracari (aracari.com; 00 51 1 651 2424) arranges in-depth, tailor-made trips to Lima and around Peru. British Airways flies non-stop from Gatwick to Lima from £653 return. ☐



PHOTOGRAPHS: BEATRIZ CHOI, J. RAY, REVIEW