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Reef Suite On Elite List

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At \$10,000 per night, the Penthouse Suite at the Reef Atlantis on Paradise Island is among the 101 top hotel or resort suites of the year, according to lifestyle magazine 'Elite Traveler.'

The magazine, which caters to the global "jet set," released the list of 101 Top Hotel/Resort Suites of The Year in its July/August issue.

The publishers of the magazine contend that despite the current trend toward 'staycations' for much of the population, the so-called "super-rich" continue to traverse the globe on private jets.

It is contended that Elite Traveler readers average 41 trips per year, including 10 intercontinental trips.

The most expensive suite on the 101 Top Suites this year is in Europe, the \$52,000 per night Royal Penthouse Suite at the Hotel President Wilson in Geneva Switzerland, followed closely by the \$50,000 per night Royal Villa at the Grand Resort Lagonissi in Attica, Greece and the \$21,000 per night Imperial Suite at the Park Hyatt Paris-Vendome.

In the United States, the most expensive suite is the Ty Warner Penthouse at the Four Seasons Hotel New York at \$30,000 per night, also notable as the most expensive suite ever built in the United States.

The magazine's editorial director, Laura Hughes, said her readers spend more than \$400,000 per year at hotels and resorts.

"So price isn't an issue to them," she said. "We just want to alert them to the most unique design styles, best services, and new amenities in the most amazing locations, whatever the price."

Approximately one-third of the suites on the list cost over \$10,000 per night, but a few locations with a so-called "winning combination" of service, amenities, style, and location are included, supposedly within the grasp of those seeking a "once-in-a-lifetime jet set experience."

An Ocean Front Suite at Fort Lauderdale's St. Regis Resort, a one bedroom suite at the Palms Place Hotel and Condo, Las Vegas, Suite #1 at Phinda Mountain Lodge, Phinda Private Game Reserve in South Africa, and a pool villa at the Alila, Cha-Am in Amphur Cha-Am, Thailand all rank among the best in the world and can be secured for less than \$1000/night.

The magazine's publishers said "101 Top Suites" was compiled by the editors of Elite Traveler and a panel of celebrity readers including Barry Manilow, Lindsay Davenport, Sean Combs, and Kelly Ripa.

Other suites in the region that made the list include the Amanyara Suite at the Ocean Villas, in Providenciales, Turks and Caicos (\$12,000 per night), and the Eden Rock Suite at Villa Nina in St. Barths, which goes for \$76,100 per week.