

THE ESSENCE OF LUXURY

ELITE

T R A V E L E R

NOV/DEC
2005

TOP SUITES:

HONG KONG
AND ORLANDO

ULTIMATE GUIDE:

THE YACHTSMAN'S
CARIBBEAN

HOT ROCKS:

DIAMOND JEWELRY
AND WATCHES

ASPEN

VAIL

JACKSON HOLE

WHISTLER

SKI THE WEST

\$35.00



HILTON'S BEST

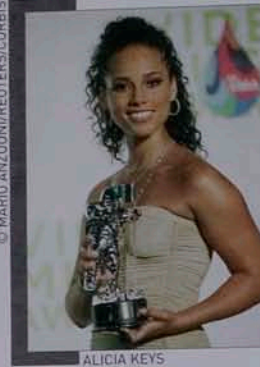
If you have any connection to the entertainment industry or the largest charitable organizations on the West Coast, then you likely attend red carpet events (like the Golden Globes) on a regular basis at the 50-year-old **Beverly Hilton**. Now, thanks to an \$80 million transformation courtesy of new owner Beny Alagem (founder of Packard Bell Electronics), you should spend much more time before or after those galas enjoying the legendary hotel. Highest praise goes to the nine lavish suites that make up the new **Penthouse Collection** on the eighth floor. Design firm Hirsch-Bedner Associates gave each of the one-bedroom suites a unique décor that is pure residential. And there is no shortage of luxurious and high-tech amenities in the penthouses, such as plasma HDTVs, Bose home theater systems, fireplaces, vaulted ceilings, long balconies, marble baths and L'Occitane products. Suites start at 830 square feet but can connect to additional rooms on the floor to form 3,000-square-foot apartments. Shaquille O'Neal has already given the new penthouses a run. Rates start at \$750 nightly.

Contact: General Manager Denny Fitzpatrick, Phone: (310) 274-7777; Fax: (310) 285-1313; Email: denny_fitzpatrick@hilton.com; Website: www.beverlyhilton.com

GLITTERATI ON THE GO

Miami Mania: MTV's Video Music Awards put Miami in the spotlight for the second year in a row. The Doubletree Surfcomber Hotel on Collins Avenue in South Beach emerged as Hotel MTV, where there were no vacancies at pool parties, live performances and autograph sessions.

© MARIO ANZUINI/REUTERS/CORBIS



ALICIA KEYS

Other star-studded party spots included the Sagamore, the Setai and the Raleigh Hotel. One winner who didn't stick around to show off her moon man statuette was Alicia Keys. The award show veteran and her entourage escaped to the nearby Grove Isle Hotel & Spa in Coconut Grove. **Hollywood Helps:** Days later, the celeb community's attention turned outward in response to the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. At the Delano, Jamie Foxx auctioned off prizes, including dates with Colin Farrell and Paris Hilton, who fetched a whopping \$200,000. Keys, meanwhile, turned up at the Shelter from the Storm telethon where she was (natch) right on key.

News from Napa: Beau Bridges checked in to River Terrace Inn not only to enjoy the view, but to be able to walk to Budó, which is fast becoming famous in the area for its Asian-accented cuisine. Carly Simon was also a recent guest at the luxe yet low-key inn, which is just a stone's throw from Napa's Main Street. **BYOC:** Chronically chic Duran Duran put the weel into Fashion Week, New York City's biggest front-row seat competition. And at the risk of ruining their rock star image, the guys revealed that their favorite take-away from the Fashion Rocks gift lounge backstage at Radio City Music Hall was a new Keurig Gourmet Coffee Brewer. Forget about staying up all night. They just wanted to make sure it would work on their plane ride home!



HALF MOON MODEL / LUXURIATOR

COOL SHADES

Train your sights on these: Opulent eyewear designer **Luxuriator**, whose exotic frames have been seen on Sharon Stone, Usher, Paula Abdul and Destiny's Child members, created a one-of-a-kind version of its **Half Moon** model that gleams with 400 rubies. Each top-quality stone measures 1.2mm and is hand set into the 18K gold frame and even into the eyeglass screws. Arms of the frames have a double-layer effect courtesy of buffalo horn, which is white on one side and red on the other. Lenses are shown in a slightly tinted red-pink that perfectly complements the rubies' glow. Luxuriator will also be creating emerald and sapphire versions of the specs. The \$16,000 price includes an 18K white gold chain.

Contact: Founder and Designer Franco, Phone: (818) 760-8126; Website: www.luxuriator.net