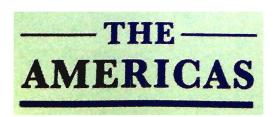


At a glance

Pamela Goodman offers a bird's-eye view of some of the world's most exciting hotels



5 URUGUAY

This is the hottest spot on the whole South American continent. New kids on the block include the ultracool **Playa Vik Jose Ignacio** – sister property to Estancia Vik, just a few miles away – a beachfront retreat with six casas round a central 'sculpture building'