

The **out**Traveler

THE STANDARD OF GAY TRAVEL

FALL

WILD SAFARI

COOL CREATURE
COMFORTS
ON THE SOUTH
AFRICAN
SAVANNAH

LUXURY
LUGGAGE
ALAN
CUMMING
HALIFAX
FLORIDA
ROAD TRIP
SEXY SKI
WEEKENDS

25
HOTELS
WE
LOVE

Where We Go for Tea in the Sahara

// **Adrere Amellal, Siwa, Egypt** // Fancy a trip to a far-off land where one can wear robes in public without a second glance from the locals? Head to Egypt, across the Sahara, and into the dreamy oasis of Siwa. It's here that Alexander the Great consulted his oracle and where Cleopatra once bathed in a now-famous spring. Adrere Amellal is built into the side of a majestic white mountain. Run by local Berbers in flowing white robes and turbans, the hotel is actually an eco-lodge, which means no electricity, all organic food, and buildings built out of mud and salt brick. But don't think you'll be roughing it. The quiet and cool Berbers take care of your every need, providing sumptuous meals from their Parisian trained chef and lighting your lanterns every evening. For those who don't mind a bit of sand where the sun don't shine, ask local tribesman Abdallah, the Julie McCoy of Siwa, for a death-defying drive into the desert for sand surfing, tea service, and a sizzling sunset. Guests who prefer a more low-key day can simply bob about in the oasis's saline waters or take a trip into town to see Cleopatra's bath, the Temple of Amun, or stock up on local figs, olives, and those traditional robes (the galabia is similar to a caftan). Buy one and throw Western wear, along with all your cares, to the wind. 011-20-20738-1327. —Cator Sparks



The Adrere Amellal offers an elaborate tea service in the midst of towering sand dunes.