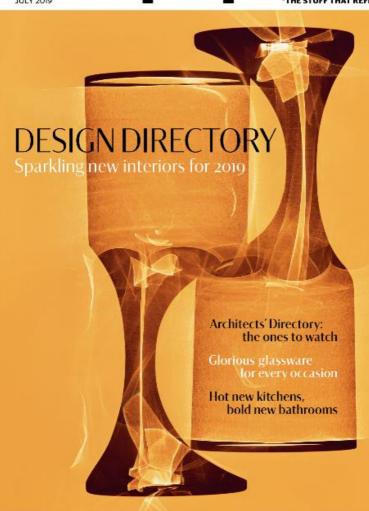
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Desert bloom

SONOP, NAMIBIA

A year after the opening of Omaanda, a private lodge near the Namibian capital Windhoek, Belgian group Zannier Hotels has launched Sonop Namibia, a luxury tented camp on the southern edge of the Namib Desert. Featuring a nuanced mixture of antiques, modern amenities and earthy interiors, the ten tents serve as richly appointed launchpads from which to explore the surrounding desert dunes and rock formations. Copper bathtubs and four-poster beds nod to the refined, 1920s British explorer aesthetic, as do details such as flasks, binoculars and vintage maps. Contemporary amenities - all solarpowered - include a spa and an outdoor infinity pool. Dinner is at a communal table, with butler service. Evenings can be rounded off at the gentlemen's club-styled Cocktail & Cigar Lounge, with billiards and parlour games, or the open-air cinema, where screenings may be enjoyed in the hush of the desert. Ella Marshall Sonop Farm, Road D707, Karas Region, tel: 264. 84 0000 888, zannierhotels.com. Rates: from £495