

TRAVEL AND HOSPITALITY

## Luxury Collection turns travel inspiration into accessories

May 15, 2019



*Solaz Resort in Los Cabos was among the properties that Ms. Salazar visited. Image credit: The Luxury Collection*

By STAFF REPORTS

Marriott International's The Luxury Collection is teaming up with jewelry designer Mercedes Salazar to translate the experience of Mexican travel into tangible goods.

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As the latest Global Explorer for The Luxury Collection, Ms. Salazar ventured to three different properties within the portfolio and turned her journey into jewelry and accessories. Consumers' engagement with hotels is typically fleeting, but this collection enables The Luxury Collection to become part of consumers' wardrobes and everyday lives.

"We are so excited to be teaming up with Mercedes Salazar as our newest Global Explorer," said Anthony Ingham, global brand leader for The Luxury Collection, in a statement. "Mercedes has long been committed to infusing local culture into her eclectic designs, so the collaboration felt natural given that we are both drawn to creative exploration.

"With this capsule collection she really captures the spirit of The Luxury Collection and our unique properties in Mexico through her designs, while also bringing to life the authentic culture of the destination," he said.

**Sense of place**

Originally from Colombia, Ms. Salazar relocated to Mexico City while she was studying jewelry design.

For The Luxury Collection, Ms. Salazar stayed at Solaz Resort in Los Cabos, Hacienda Temozon and Hacienda Santa Rosa in the Yucatan and Las Alcobas in Mexico City.

"I fell in love with the spirit of Mexico when I left Colombia to study jewelry in Mexico City 15 years ago," Ms. Salazar said in a statement. "I learned the art of craftsmanship and was so moved by the culture that when I finished my studies, I started my jewelry company that still embodies the ethos of the destination today.

"When The Luxury Collection invited me to rediscover Mexico through the lens of their stunning properties, I was thrilled to revisit my roots and design an exotic, culturally authentic accessories line inspired by the indigenous experiences I had throughout my journey," she said. "From working with native artisans and learning their time-

honored techniques, to participating in local events and experiencing The Luxury Collection's cherished properties, I was able to re-ignite my connection with Mexico and create my first-ever line inspired by the place that is so dear to my heart."

Pieces in the line include handbags, earrings and hats inspired by the Mexican destinations.

For instance, cacti in the Los Cabos area turned into earrings in the shape of the desert plants. Meanwhile, Mexico City's markets inspired a woven crossbody handbag featuring brightly colored threads.

[View this post on Instagram](#)

We're proud to announce a capsule collection of jewelry & accessories designed by @MercedesSalazar celebrated designer and #TheLuxuryCollection's newest Global Explorer. The collection is inspired by her creative exploration in Mexico where she traveled to three uniquely different destinations: @solazresortloscabos in Los Cabos, @thehaciendas in the Yucatan, and @lasalcobas in Mexico City. The colors, the flavors, the legends, and the magic...every piece is handmade to reflect the ethos of Mexico's culture. Learn more about the source of creativity behind the collection via link in bio and shop the collection via [luxurycollectionstore.com](http://luxurycollectionstore.com).

A post shared by The Luxury Collection (@theluxurycollection) on May 14, 2019 at 12:03pm PDT

*Instagram post from The Luxury Collection*

Ms. Salazar was also inspired by Mayan needlework used by women in the Yucatan region, turning the technique into straw hats.

Priced between \$150 and \$260, the collection will be available exclusively through Ms. Salazar's ecommerce site and The Luxury Collection's online shop.

The Luxury Collection previously let consumers take a piece of Greece with them on their travels through a collaboration with British luggage brand Globe-Trotter.

An exclusive limited-edition suitcase collection designed by Sofia Sanchez de Betak was inspired by her trip to the country, with cases that referenced her stays in Luxury Collection properties in four Grecian destinations. Each suitcase came with a scavenger hunt map illustrated by Ms. de Betak, making them both decorative and quirky travel guides ([see story](#)).

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