

EDEN GEOGRAPHIC

Magazine



TIMELESS RETREATS

Nine properties across Europe & North Africa – contemporary sophistication where the ancient drama does the talking.

THE ART OF EFFORTLESS ESCAPE

Thoughtful design and instinctive service bring polish to every all-inclusive moment at Ikos' Greek and Spanish resorts.

ISLAND ALCHEMY

Island addresses that transform raw elements into qualities that last beyond the stay.

BALI IN BALANCE

Rainforest ritual at Sayan. Beachfront ease at Jimbaran Bay. Four Seasons proves just how varied Bali can feel.

THE ESSENCE OF AMAN

Peace as a condition, not a promise. Why Aman remains in a category entirely of its own.

DEBUTS & DISCOVERIES

New addresses, considered arrivals. The most anticipated hotel openings of 2026 – and what makes them worth the journey.



Perfect Timing is Overrated.

*The world doesn't wait for the right moment.
Neither should you.*

There's a particular kind of travel that stays with you – not because things went to plan, but because the unexpected caught you completely off guard. The quiet of a shoreline where the water sits somewhere between turquoise and glass. The moment a medina comes alive at dusk – spice stalls, sound, everything arriving at once. The quality of light at 1800 metres as it settles over the Asni Valley.

That's the territory we explore here in this issue of EDEN Geographic. Across Europe, a collection of long-established addresses shows how contemporary comfort can sit easily in landscapes that have held their character for centuries. Morocco reveals two entirely different versions of itself – the sensory intensity of Marrakech and the mountain stillness an hour south. Bali does the same, in its own special way.

Nine island addresses, from the Indian Ocean to the Caribbean, prove that soul runs deeper than first impressions. Ikos Resorts continue to remind us that all-inclusive and effortless are not mutually exclusive. We dig deep into the world of Aman – 36 destinations, one remarkably consistent idea – and get straight to the heart of what makes their experiences so singular. And in “Debuts and Discoveries”, we introduce Conrad's latest Greek address on southern Corfu's more tranquil side, as well as exploring the most anticipated Six Senses openings of 2026.

Travel today is more varied than ever. And increasingly personal. Wherever you find yourself next, we're so glad you're here.

TIMELESS RETREATS

Where the Past Still has a Pulse.

History is easy to invoke and harder to actually feel. The properties in this collection don't trade in nostalgia – the past is present in their fabric: in jasmine that's been climbing the same walls for decades, in stone that carries the weight of the civilisation that cut it, in a kitchen garden that feeds the same table it always has. From the Greek islands to the French Riviera, the Costa del Sol to the Atlas Mountains, these are addresses where history isn't preserved behind glass. It's still very much living and breathing.

Nine properties. Four countries. A remarkable amount of stories to tell.

CRETE, GREECE

AMIRANDES

Minoan palace architecture provides the framework at Grecotel's Amirandes – graceful colonnades, ceramic pitharia and water threaded deliberately through open courtyards. On Crete's northern coast, that lineage translates into a resort that feels rooted rather than referential, evident in the accommodation – from duplex suites with separate living quarters to beachfront villas with personal infinity pools that prioritise privacy over spectacle.

Eight bars and restaurants range from Italian fine-dining at Minotaur, where genuine Picasso ceramics set the tone, to time-honoured taverna cooking at Xasteria. The 960-square-metre pool acts as the resort's focal point; the Elixir Alchemy Spa works with Cretan herbs the way the island's herbalists always have. Families settle easily here: children under 12 years stay free, shallow lagoons provide safe swimming and Grecoland handles all their entertainment needs. Fourteen miles away lies Knossos Palace, though the resort's fine golden-sand cove makes leaving quite the challenge.





Cape Sounio

ATHENS RIVIERA, GREECE

CAPE SOUNIO

Forty minutes south of Athens, the Temple of Poseidon floats above the terracotta bungalows, suites and villas of Grecotel’s Cape Sounio like a permanent guest. The backdrop does considerable work: pristine pine forest reserve meets archaeological site, three private beaches reveal underwater ruins when snorkelling, and accommodation cascades down natural amphitheatre slopes with each and every terrace facing either Poseidon’s columns or open sea.

The resort’s April 2026 reopening brought with it renowned Osteopath Vicky Vlachonis and her innovative holistic “Elevations of Wellness” programme, which centres on an open-air hydro-tonic therapy pool angled towards the temple. Seven restaurants run from Yali’s floating seafood platform to new poolside venues where wood-fired ovens operate in full view. Lavrio Port is 10 minutes away – handy for Cycladic island-hopping – though those views and ruins quickly prove somewhat more compelling than ferry schedules.



Cape Sounio

KOMMENO PENINSULA, CORFU

CORFU IMPERIAL

Privacy is paramount at Grecotel’s Corfu Imperial – with an entire headland given over to olive groves, four coves and sea on three sides. Self-contained at Kommemo Peninsula’s tip without feeling remote, the accommodation ranges from Imperial Building rooms to a substantial waterfront collection, including six-bedroom estates spanning 458 square metres, with twin pools and sand right at their terraces’ edges.

Dining moves from the formal elegance of Aristos to Yali’s seafood venue. Merlin’s Bar Restaurant blends Asian and Latin influences against panoramic bay views. And casual Italian at Trattoria fills the spectrum in-between. Elsewhere, Danilia Village – Grecotel’s traditional 1930s Corfiot village replica, used as the primary filming location for *The Durrells* – lies a short drive inland, its squares, kitchens, organic plots and olive wood craft workshops forming part of the wider stay. This peninsula may feel akin to a self-contained universe, but Corfu Town is just eight miles away should the urge to visit harbour cafés and Venetian alleyways arise.



Corfu Imperial

TIMELESS RETREATS

LIMASSOL, CYPRUS

PARKLANE LUXURY RESORT & SPA

Limassol has become the Mediterranean's cosmopolitan surprise – a city where beachfront meets modern design – with Parklane at its heart over 30 acres of landscaped parkland which opens out onto a 300-metre Blue Flag, volcanic sand beach.

Space – and the freedom it brings – underpins everything here, with 100,000 square metres of gardens buffering this, Cyprus' only international luxury resort, from neighbouring development, with accommodation reflecting its dual personality: a vibrant family escape-cum-serene adult retreat.

Décor shaped by Harrods Interiors and punctuated with Atelier 27 Paris artwork establishes a polished tone to the 274 rooms, suites and villas. Adults-only Lifestyle Suites have their own wing. Park Villas bring genuine separation with full connection to the resort. And the Bespoke Collection's top-tier villas and suites come with private pools, around-the-clock hosts and VIP airport services.

A first for Cyprus, the thalassotherapy centre makes a compelling case for attention – with five pools (one calibrated to mimic Dead Sea salinity), and a Russian Banya within the 3000-square-metre Kalloni Spa. ParkFit adds sea-facing training spaces and indoor swimming, while three outdoor pools create distinct atmospheres: adults-only repose, family-friendly energy and a seawater option in between.

Dining and social life spill beyond its own considerable draw. Nammos Limassol beach club lures in a loyal local following that alters the mood through the week, while LPM Restaurant and Bar adds another recognised international name to the roster. Interspersed among them is a retail village of seasonal cafés and boutiques (Dior, Loro Piana, Loewe), further reinforcing the contemporary Cypriot hub vibe.

Families fold naturally into the mix, too. The 3000-square-metre Explorer's Kids Club – one of Europe's largest – comes with a pirate ship splash park, a mini football pitch, a children's restaurant and programmes welcoming youngsters from four months to 12 years. Multifaceted, sociable and seamlessly flowing between beach, spa and shared spaces, Parklane takes as much from cultural momentum as it does from coastline.





CRETE, GREECE

ST. NICOLAS BAY RESORT HOTEL & VILLAS

St. Nicolas Bay, a member of Small Luxury Hotels of the World, stands on a secluded headland between Agios Nikolaos and Elounda, but its defining quality is balance – generous in scope without feeling oversized, intimate in scale, with the full range of a resort that’s present without forcing itself forward. Mirabello Bay fills the horizon below, close enough to local life when curiosity strikes, yet naturally sheltered when quiet is preferred. Cobblestone paths wind through bougainvillea-lined gardens, stepping down multi-tiered terraces to a private beach, with buggies on hand for anyone who’d prefer to skip the cardiovascular component.

Variety matters here. Couples, families and multi-generational groups can all find accommodation to suit their style: classic double rooms, family suites and club suites with individual pools; plus standout Olives and Sea Residences, immersed among olive trees for a more community feel. Eight Thalassa Villas are set in their own compound, 50 metres from the main resort, each with a private heated pool, exclusive beach pathways and a degree of seclusion that the main resort, for all its qualities, simply doesn’t replicate.

Wellbeing is approached without fanfare. The Poseidon Spa anchors the wellness offering, supported by thalassotherapy in the atmospheric Aphrodite’s Cave, complimentary outdoor yoga, a semi-open-air gym and aqua aerobics. Tuesday wine-tastings and Thursday cooking workshops punctuate the week. And everything is designed to be enjoyed intuitively, whether through structured sessions or during languid hours between strolls and swims.

Families are especially well looked after, without the resort reorganising itself around them. A mini club, playground, games room, teens’ club and seawater paddling pool run discreetly beside adult-focused spaces, so children have room to roam and adults room to breathe.

Over five restaurants, refined Greek cooking and fresh seafood at Kefanion draw on the resort’s own bio-farm, while Minotaure presents Asian and international fine-dining. Long-established nearby tavernas offer a deeper sense of place – simple cooking with far-reaching views, and the kind of cuisine that doesn’t need to announce itself as authentic. The mix is intentional: strong in-house venues, complemented by genuine character close by.



TIMELESS RETREATS

MARBELLA, SPAIN

MARBELLA CLUB HOTEL GOLF RESORT & SPA

It all started with a picnic. In 1946, Prince Max von Hohenlohe pulled his Rolls-Royce Phantom off the road into a pine forest on the Costa del Sol, and something in the light – or the stillness, or the particular quality of that afternoon – stayed with him. His son Alfonso bought the land the following year – a fig-and-pine finca called Santa Margarita that soon became the family’s Mediterranean hideaway. By 1954, it had 20 bedrooms, a dining room and a bar in the old farmhouse. Seventy years later, it’s still here – and still unmistakably itself.

That continuity is Marbella Club’s most distinctive quality. It hasn’t been repositioned or rebranded; it’s simply evolved. The 130 rooms, suites and villas range from Deluxe Rooms and Junior Suites through to Grand Suites, Villas and Bungalows. Six unique Suites, including the Príncipe Alfonso and Santa Margarita Suites, carry their names with full biographical weight. And the Grand Villas, half a dozen of them, are each set deep enough in the gardens to feel entirely separate from the main estate. Across 90,000 square metres of subtropical gardens – bougainvillea, jasmine, palms pressing against the Mediterranean sky – the original impulse still holds: a private estate that became a hotel, not the other way around.

The most telling recent addition is Finca Ana María – a working garden extension developed with the ‘Gardener Prince’ Louis Albert de Broglie, where more than 300 varieties of fruit and vegetables grow just steps from El Olivar’s kitchen. Its connection to nature – through wellbeing, gastronomy, cultural programming and kids’ club activities – is one that’s functional, not decorative.

Eight restaurants run the gamut from silver service at El Grill and sardinas al espeto at MC Beach to El Olivar, where Chef Andrés Ruiz builds his plant-led menu from whatever the Finca yields. Four pools follow the same logic: adults-only refuge at the Ana María Pool, sun-splashed sociability at the Beach Club, easygoing poolside living beside the Garden Pool and languid bathing at the Thalasso Spa’s pool, its seawater drawn directly from the Med. Youngsters colonise the 5000-square-metre Kids’ Club, while 20 minutes inland, in the Benahavis hills, lie the resort’s Dave Thomas-designed 18-hole golf course and the equestrian centre, which offers dressage, pony trekking and competition-level training.

Glamour, it turns out, was in Marbella’s DNA all along.





SAINT-JEAN-CAP-FERRAT, FRANCE

GRAND-HÔTEL DU CAP-FERRAT A FOUR SEASONS HOTEL

Saint-Jean-Cap-Ferrat pushes into the Mediterranean with water on three sides – 25 minutes from Monaco, 30 from Nice, close enough for both to remain practical yet separated. It's a peninsula, not a coastline, and the difference matters: a sense of being slightly apart from the mainland world. The Grand-Hôtel has stood at its tip since 1908, the original Rotunda attributed in the hotel's own history to Gustave Eiffel, with 17 acres of gardens layered over the decades until jasmine, lavender and century-old pines feel less planted than inevitable. The Riviera has spent the intervening years refining its image. This address has had no need to hurry.



That calm is helped by scale used with unusual restraint. Seventy-five keys across the estate means the density never registers, even in high season. Garden paths hold their silence, terraces keep their distance and Club Dauphin's seawater pool is tucked neatly away in the gardens, with space the Riviera doesn't often allow. Sunday lunch at La Véranda beneath those old pines, served in a long sharing format – Deutz Champagne, regional dishes by chef Yoric Tièche, a dessert trolley that arrives without urgency – has the quality of a ritual that long pre-dates the menu. Later, Le Cap shifts the score: one Michelin star, 30 covers inside and 30 on the terrace, both operating on suitably intimate terms.



Culture is close without becoming theatre. Jean Cocteau spent years on Cap-Ferrat transforming the interior of nearby Villa Santo Sospir – every wall, ceiling and surface – into a continuous fresco, and the hotel folds that inheritance in quietly. Villa Beauchamp, one of the property's three private villas, carries a master bathroom mosaic floor with patterns drawn directly from his work; the Penthouse, redesigned by Sybille de Margerie, takes the reference upward with a ceiling fresco, a freestanding bath angled to the horizon and a terrace proportioned more like a yacht deck.

Three glass-walled spa cabanas nestle among the planting – one built around dry flotation therapy, one using Menton lemons and botanicals from the hotel's grounds in treatments by Swiss house Dr Burgener. The Sea Explorers Kids' Club, redesigned around a local pirate legend, gives younger guests 43,000 square feet beneath the pines, with ecological literacy worked into the experience without making a song and dance of it. Both emerged in 2025. Both feel like they've always belonged here. That's actually much rarer than it sounds.

WHERE MEDINA MEETS THE MOUNTAINS

The city. The mountains. Seven unforgettable days.

Most people come to Morocco for The Red City and leave without ever finding the best of it. This itinerary digs a little deeper. Four nights at The Oberoi, a serene retreat at Marrakech's edge, reveals the city – once described by Winston Churchill as the most beautiful on earth – on your own terms.

Just an hour's drive south, the Atlas Mountains rise up and everything changes. Kasbah Tamadot stands at 1800 metres, surrounded by Berber villages and ancient peaks. Same country, completely different world. That contrast is what makes this trip so compelling.



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS



Secrets of the Souk. Discover the medina and its labyrinthine souks with your own guide, uncovering hidden artisan workshops, the finest spice merchants and stories behind some of the city’s most enchanting landmarks.



Hammam Heaven. Surrender to a time-honoured ritual – steam, black soap and kessa scrub – at The Oberoi Spa, a 2000-square-metre island of serenity encircled by water and built around a traditional zellige-tiled hammam and lit by pierced lanterns.



Dawn Over Marrakech. The Oberoi arranges private dawn balloon flights which drift above ochre rooftops, minarets and palm groves as the light lifts over the mountains. One of the most revealing ways to see the city.



Trekking the Atlas. From Kasbah Tamadot, Berber guides lead walking routes through olive groves, fruit orchards and traditional villages – from gentle valley trails to serious ridge hikes with panoramic High Atlas views.



Mountain Masterclass. Master the art of Moroccan cuisine – fragrant spices and age-old techniques – guided by the chefs at Kasbah Tamadot, before sitting down to eat a three-course feast with the Atlas Mountains as your backdrop.



Alfresco Picture Shows. Settle in for a film under the mountain sky on select evenings at Kasbah Tamadot – cool air, blankets, popcorn and, more often than not, Casablanca. Simple, atmospheric and better than any cinema.



THE OBEROI MARRAKECH – 4 NIGHTS

The olive groves that shade The Oberoi’s 28 acres pre-date the hotel by centuries – and the architecture inside its walls makes a similar claim on history. The central courtyard is a deliberate reimagining of the Medersa Ben Youssef, its zellige tilework and carved plasterwork crafted by artisans over a five-year period. Eighty-four rooms and villas sit privately among the groves, most with walled gardens and personal pools, while three restaurants – anchored by Rivayat, where Michelin-starred Rohit Ghai’s Indian menu feels, improbably, entirely at home – give evenings genuine range.



KASBAH TAMADOT, ATLAS MOUNTAINS – 3 NIGHTS

Bought and carefully restored by Sir Richard Branson, Kasbah Tamadot – awarded three Keys in 2025 by The Michelin Guide – rises above the Asni Valley, its terracotta walls emerging from a hillside of olive trees and mountain scrub. The 42 rooms, suites, Berber tents and three-bedroom riads are furnished with antiques collected from across the world; the Asounfou Spa draws on Berber traditions; and Berber guides lead treks into the enveloping peaks. What stays with you is harder to name – something in the altitude, the quiet, and the way the light lands at dusk.

EUROPE

IKOS RESORTS

THE ART OF EFFORTLESS ESCAPE

Where thoughtful design and instinctive service lend a sense of polish to every all-inclusive moment.

From the pine-fringed shores of Halkidiki to Spain's sunlit southern coast, Ikos Resorts span some of the Med's most easy-going stretches of waterfront.

Something clicks into place within minutes of checking in – the unshowy competence that makes a holiday run smoother than real life: luggage disappears, coffee is served and logistics are handled before you know it. Their Unconditional Luxury philosophy hums steadily beneath the surface, seamlessly wrapping dining, discoveries and day-to-day practicalities into your stay.

Across Greece and Spain – with further expansion underway – the atmosphere remains consistent: generous, unhurried and beautifully attuned to its surroundings. Two hotels illustrate this particularly well: Ikos Andalusia on the charismatic Costa del Sol and Ikos Aria in the open light of the Aegean.





ESTEPONA, SPAIN

IKOS ANDALUSIA

The strand between Estepona and Marbella moves to its own tempo – wide promenades, late dinners and an Andalusian ease that rewards stepping out over staying put. Ikos Andalusia leans comfortably into that energy. Since opening in 2021 as the brand's first venture outside of Greece, it's treated the surrounding region as an important part of your stay.

The Local Drive Adventure programme makes exploration disarmingly simple: a complimentary electric MINI Countryman places Ronda's dramatic gorge, Marbella's old-town tapas bars and an unplanned stop at a clifftop mirador firmly within reach. Nearby championship golf courses add another dimension for those drawn to time on the fairway.

The accommodation reflects evolving travel patterns, with the recently added four-bedroom villas – a first for Ikos – featuring private pools and indoor gyms, ideal for longer stays.

Nine pools and adults-only pockets calibrate the day – from the sociable to the restorative – while evenings drift between nine restaurants with Michelin-starred input from Ettore Botrini, Lefteris Lazarou and Andoni Luis Aduriz. Complemented by the Dine Out programme's carefully selected local tables – from relaxed chiringuitos to Michelin-recognised kitchens – you can navigate the region with real confidence.

Sociable, sunlit and unmistakably Mediterranean in spirit.



KOS, GREECE

IKOS ARIA

Opposite the small white church on Kastri islet, Ikos Aria covers 47 acres of Kos' southwest shoreline, fronted by an 850-metre Blue Flag, Aegean-facing beach. Resolutely Greek-island in scale and pace, a deep association with Hippocrates still influences how wellbeing is understood here, yet Aria reflects a wider rhythm – equal parts activity, exploration and ease – with watersports, tennis, cycling routes and kids' programmes running alongside more sedate areas.

The Hippocrates Garden of Life forms the resort's botanical core, a cultivated space where herbs referenced in classical Greek medicine – oregano, thyme, rosemary, sage – grow in careful arrangement, grounding wellness in the island's storied heritage.

Days rarely remain resort-bound. Complimentary electric vehicles encourage independent journeys along the coast, with museum passes granting access to the Asklepion complex inland – reminders that this island's identity runs deeper than the shore. In resort, dining carries similar intent: eight venues work under Michelin-starred direction, and Antonio Bachour-designed desserts bring playful precision to the table.

A seasonal football academy led by former Premier League players injects further energy, and five pools – including one for Deluxe Collection guests – and a broad beachfront mean there's always somewhere restful – or lively – to land.



ISLAND ALCHEMY

What happens when a setting is only part of the story?

Some islands are defined by their shorelines. For others, it's the welcome that leaves the deeper mark. Scale varies. Expression does too. What endures is character – the subtle transformation of raw elements into qualities that last beyond the stay, held to standards that don't shift with the tides. Move between these addresses and the differences become unmistakable; each has its own habits, its own pace and its own way of doing things.

In the Maldives, that might mean a 300-metre slip of sand embraced by its own house reef, where fish flicker beneath glass-clear water just metres from shore; in Mauritius, a narrow peninsula where the lagoon and the open ocean pull in opposite directions, and the choice of which shore to face shapes your entire day. In Barbados, it could be afternoon tea served at four sharp under whirring ceiling fans in a coral-pink Great House, where hospitality remains personal and returning guests are greeted by name; in Turks and Caicos, wall dives that drop to thousands of feet, the extraordinary clarity of Grace Bay and conch served fresh from the sea.



Six Senses Laamu

LAAMU ATOLL, MALDIVES

SIX SENSES LAAMU

Six Senses Laamu's strength is quiet self-sufficiency over transfer time. As Laamu Atoll's only five-star address, it's more contained than Kanuhura, its northern counterpart, and beautifully removed from the broader arc of resort life.

Its 94 villas sweep over lagoon and sand, but it's the reef beyond that sets the tone. The island grows much of its kitchen produce, runs a working marine laboratory through the SHELL Conservation Centre and Maldives Underwater Initiative, and supports long-term turtle monitoring and coral restoration programmes – details that point to a place that's truly comfortable in its own company.

That independence extends outward: resident biologists lead house reef snorkels and, from May to September, the Yin Yangs surf break lies a short boat ride away. Indulgence carries its own signature too: at the Zen counter, Omakase menus are shaped around whatever the sea has yielded that day; a resident Chocolate Alchemist works with organic Criollo beans, and the spun-glass Altitude Wine Cellar hosts private sommelier dinners 6.4 metres above open water.



LHAVIYANI ATOLL, MALDIVES

SIX SENSES KANUHURA

Three islands, one address. Six Senses Kanuhura spreads over a trio of private Maldivian islets, its 85 villas strung between one of the atoll's widest natural beaches and overwater platforms that step directly into a clear, shallow lagoon.

As the more expansive of Six Senses' two Maldivian outposts, it extends over sand and water, then out to neighbouring Jehunuhura Island, where Drift Restaurant serves long lunches under coconut palms, and on to a third island left deliberately empty for private desert island escapes.

Thirty dive and snorkel sites lie within easy reach, and the marine environment feeds more than recreation: ocean-based treatments at the spa are matched with produce grown in the Earth Lab's hydroponic gardens. On land, tennis and squash courts with coaching available, a thoughtful family programme and evenings at Sunset Point lend Kanuhura a relaxed sociability. Generous in footprint and easy in spirit, you never feel confined to a single stretch of sand.



THE BOUTIQUE BOLTHOLE



BAA ATOLL, MALDIVES

MILAI DHOO MALDIVES

At 300 by 180 metres, Milaidhoo takes about 15 minutes to walk around – and that’s rather the point.

This is one of the Maldives’ most deliberately intimate resorts: planted on a private island in the Baa Atoll UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, encircled by house reef. All villas and residences have their own 24-hour island host. And, with no music played in public areas, what you hear instead are birds and lapping water.

That same spirit of seclusion extends into every detail. The villas open out to 180-degree ocean views, each furnished with pieces custom-made by Maldivian craftsmen – including the traditional hanging undhoali swing on every deck.

The signature Ba’theli restaurant extends over three dhoni sailing boats moored on the lagoon, its glass floors revealing reef life moving silently below. On deck, sharing plates of grilled reef fish, aromatic curries and vibrant sambols arrive – dishes inspired by the spice traders and seafarers who once gathered over communal meals on these waters.

The house reef itself is the resort’s most compelling feature. A resident marine biologist guides snorkels year-round, and the Milaidhoo Caves – submerged limestone formations where light fractures into blue-green shafts and reef fish dart through the shadows – open up another dimension.

From May to November, Hanifaru Bay – minutes away – attracts manta rays gathering in dense, swirling formations, sweeping past in slow, deliberate arcs as they feed on plankton blooms.

Back on land, the Serenity Spa comprises four overwater treatment suites. The LYMA Laser – the first in the Maldives – is at the centre of its latest treatments, paired with therapies using products from Aromatherapy Associates and Margaret Dabbs London.

Fifteen minutes away by boat, the island of Kihadhoo offers an encounter of another kind. A Milaidhoo team member who grew up there guides small groups through coral-stone lanes, introducing neighbours and sharing fishing traditions that few visitors ever encounter – a rare glimpse into everyday life beyond the lagoon.



NORTH MALÉ ATOLL, MALDIVES

PATINA MALDIVES, FARI ISLANDS

In a destination that tends to prize seclusion, Patina chooses openness. Walk the boardwalk at Fari Marina Village at dusk and you'll find boats drifting between islands, conversations carried over water and James Turrell's Amarta Skyspace light installation shifting from pale blue to indigo overhead.

Designed by Marcio Kogan of Studio MK27, the island's 90 villas and 20 studios lie low against sand and lagoon, interiors pared back and deliberate, with private pools spilling out onto lagoon or beach. The geometry is precise but never cold, rooms open wide, walls dissolve into decking, and the boundary between inside and outside is largely a matter of which direction you're facing. Daylight moves differently here: across white render, through slatted screens, over water that shifts from pale jade to deep blue as the reef falls away beneath.

Thirteen dining concepts give Patina its social pulse. Fire flickers at Brasa, knives move with quiet precision at Japanese-Nordic Kōen, while at Farine, a semi-Italian dining experience, artisanal breads, handmade pasta and house-made dolci materialise. Greek plates channel Aegean flavours at Helios, plant-forward menus shape Roots, and three food trucks idle along the water. Behind it all, a conscious approach to sourcing, including produce from the island's organic garden, shapes the kitchen. It's convivial by design, but never noisy.

Beyond the boardwalk, the unexpected waits. A floating golf course fans out over the lagoon at low tide, the biodegradable or fish food golf balls disappearing into open water. After dark, a resident DJ spins slick beats at the beach club, bare feet on warm sand, cocktails measured to the last millilitre, and evenings that begin at sunset and stretch easily past midnight.

Eight island art pieces catch the last of the light as the sky darkens, and an Artist in Residence programme ensures there's always fresh work to discover. The library, compiled by Philip Blackwell of Ultimate Library, offers a more literary antidote: deep shelves, considered curation and armchairs that invite long evenings. The Flow Spa goes further inward still: a dedicated Watsu pool for passive aquatic therapy, biohacking diagnostics and sound healing sessions.

At Patina, even the silence has form.



THE HERITAGE HOUSE



MAURITIUS

THE ST. REGIS LE MORNE

Most Indian Ocean resorts look outward. The St. Regis Le Morne looks up. Le Morne Brabant – a 556-metre basalt monolith rising almost vertically from the south-west tip of Mauritius – is present from virtually every point. From the beach, the pool terrace and the bar where a hand-painted mural traces its silhouette behind the bottles, it's simply there, a fixed point around which the resort arranges itself.

The 172 suites and villas are all-butler as standard – St. Regis house rules – with Heritage Suites stepping closer to the lagoon and Manor House Spa Suites, housed in the original colonial building, bringing the spa's treatments directly to you. At the top end, the Grand Beachfront Villa compound runs to four individual villas, a heated infinity pool and three plunge pools, a private chef and enough square footage that the helicopter transfer from the airport needs no justification whatsoever.

Out on the water, Le Morne's other identity asserts itself. The ION Club Prestige – an internationally recognised kite-surfing operation with equipment rental and private tuition – runs from the beach, and the One Eye wave entices serious kite surfers who discovered this coastline long before St. Regis. The shallow lagoon stretches clear to the reef edge, and it's from here that the resort pontoon, The Bennington, makes two-hour sunset excursions out to Crystal Rock for snorkelling, returning with the mountain at its back and the light off the water doing just what Indian Ocean light does at that hour.

The St. Regis Spa unfolds across 2000 square metres and 12 treatment rooms. Its signature Mauritian Massage uses locally sourced coconut oil warmed with notes of vanilla and frangipani – applied with unhurried intent – while a collaboration with Swiss skincare house Margo's Monte Carlo brings advanced, science-led skincare to the facial menu.

At dusk, a butler arrives on the beach with a sabre for a Champagne Ritual: pure St. Regis theatre – Napoleonic in origin, daily in practice, performative without apology – and it happens against the Le Morne skyline, which lends it a backdrop that no amount of brand mythology could manufacture. Five dining venues cover Franco-Mauritian to Japanese to South-East Asian, with a Mauritian cooking school for the curious and La Patisserie dispensing coffee and croissants with views of the UNESCO mountain. It's a small moment against an extraordinary canvas – which somehow is the most St. Regis thing of all.

MAURITIUS

ONE&ONLY LE SAINT GÉRAN

Few Mauritian addresses can claim what One&Only Le Saint Géran has always had: a narrow private peninsula at Pointe de Flacq, with a sheltered lagoon on one side and the wider Indian Ocean on the other.

That footprint shapes everything. Guests rarely feel the urge to leave, and those who return – and many do, year after year – come back for exactly this: a sense of place so particular to its peninsula that it couldn't exist anywhere else.

Originally opened in 1975, the resort was fully rebuilt in 2018 and subtly refined again in 2024 to mark its 49th anniversary. The beach itself was recently refreshed while, deeper in the gardens, the Guerlain Spa – the first in Mauritius – introduces a calmer counterpoint: shaded courtyards, highly personalised treatments and exclusive rituals from the French house whose heritage lies in perfume and skincare.

The 142 rooms and suites gather in low pavilion clusters, each oriented toward water, with terraces or balconies that make the landscape the point of the room rather than incidental. A newer layer lies beyond the main resort: the Private Homes collection – two- to six-bedroom residences with personal pools – suited to families or multi-generational groups who want something closer to a home base than a hotel room. Paired with the introduction of RIVA, a poolside restaurant whose Riviera-inflected mood signals a slightly different pace of island life, this development adds a fresh angle to a peninsula long defined by resort stays.

Smooth as silk and jade-clear, the lagoon is ideal territory for paddle-boards, kayaks and Hobie Cats launched from the Boathouse. Cross the gardens and the atmosphere shifts. The ocean frontage carries a steadier breeze, casuarina branches moving overhead while swells roll against the outer reef. One narrow strip of land. Two entirely different maritime moods.

Club One attracts the active crowd – tennis courts, padel, yoga pavilions and outdoor training spaces arranged around the MyEquilibria fitness installation. Offshore fishing grounds, helicopter routes and inland mountain roads are in easy reach when curiosity pulls you beyond the beach. On timber stilts, Tapasake and its terrace hover over the slow-moving lagoon; and, elsewhere, Prime and La Terrasse work with the island's produce and daily catch – over open-fire grills, on alfresco terraces and during balmy poolside evenings.



THE QUIET CONSTANT

BARBADOS

COBBLERS COVE

A narrow drive through fragrant tropical gardens brings you to The Great House – blush-pink walls of solid coral stone – built in the 1940s as a sea-facing weekend sanctuary for the Haynes family. A former Quaker battery station on Barbados' less-visited northern coast and originally known as Camelot, it was purchased by the Godsals family in 1968 and renamed after the frigate birds that circle the bay. In their hands for nearly six decades, Cobblers Cove has stayed remarkably intact – the same powder-stone elegance, unchanged, held in place by mature palms and the steady sound of the sea.

Forty-one suites sit within low-slung colonial cottages and the main house, each designed to catch the breeze, with a drawing room, separate bedroom and discreet air-conditioning. There are no in-room televisions – just bookshelves stocked with reading material and private verandas furnished with deeply comfortable rattan chaises that look either towards the Caribbean Sea or into lush, densely planted, species-rich gardens, all tended with the same care as everything else here.

The interiors are the work of co-owner Sam Godsals, developed in collaboration with Barbadian carpenters, ceramicists, basket weavers and designers. Service is personal in the old-world sense: names remembered, preferences gently noted and afternoon tea served with warm scones and fine china at precisely 4pm daily in the Great House.

Camelot is widely regarded among Barbados's finest dining rooms, its seasonal, daily changing menus drawing heavily on home-grown produce, around 70% of which is cultivated locally. Dress codes are relaxed: elegant in the restaurant, informal on the terrace. Tuesdays bring barbecues to the beach; Sundays a long, easy-going lunch; and sundowners come in the form of a Cobblers Cooler, mixed with aged Caribbean rum.

The bay rewards the observant. Hawksbill turtles move through the water with the ease of creatures who have been here far longer than the hotel. A small family of green monkeys keeps watch from a fig tree near the sand. And just 10 minutes along the shore, Speightstown's rum shacks and colourful beach cafés strike a livelier note altogether.





GRENADA

SPICE ISLAND BEACH RESORT

Unpretentious Caribbean elegance is a phrase that's often applied to luxury resorts. At Spice Island, it's not aspiration – it's inheritance. In fact, Spice Island's story began long before any guests checked in. Sir Royston Hopkin founded the resort in 1961; his daughter Janelle now serves as president. More than six decades of family ownership have shaped a place where decisions accumulate rather than reset.

The spice-inflected interior palette – nutmeg, saffron, cinnamon – is woven directly from Grenada's agricultural backbone. Staff remain here for years. And environmental responsibility shows up, not in messaging, but in infrastructure: solar-heated water, a desalination plant and soap produced on-site for laundry.

Eight acres stretch along almost 500 metres of Grand Anse Beach, with 64 suites resting low among palms, from garden-facing rooms to the Royal Collection – roomy mini-villas with cedar saunas and pools measuring nearly five by six metres. Comfort is assured, free of theatrics: Italian Frette linens, Nespresso machines and integrated Alexa systems without disturbing the ease that defines Caribbean hospitality.

Much of what reaches the table has only travelled a short distance – seafood from surrounding waters, herbs clipped from the kitchen garden, spices drawn from the island's own soil. A Sunday barbecue has gathered guests here since the beginning: by late afternoon, smoke lifts from grills set on the sand, lobster splits over charcoal, jerk spices catch in the air, breadfruit chars at the edges and the sound of steel pan drifts over the lawn as plates are refilled under the palms.

Janissa Spa – designed by architect Kobi Karp and named after Janelle Hopkin's daughter – leans on Grenada's herbs and oils instead of chasing imported trends. It's an approach that mirrors the wider resort – modern comforts folded carefully into an existing identity. The all-inclusive structure is broad without tipping into excess: premium-label drinks, non-motorised watersports and the Nutmeg Pot Activity Centre.

What has kept Spice Island steady is not reinvention but continuity – family-led, unmistakably Grenadian and completely secure in its own identity.



STILL WATERS RUN DEEP

The Turks and Caicos Islands have always understood their appeal. A recent Condé Nast Traveller ranking placing them first in the Caribbean and Atlantic only confirms what returning visitors already know.

Start with the water. Everything here eventually leads back to it. Grace Bay Beach on Providenciales delivers a shade of turquoise that resists easy description – warm year-round, glassy calm behind its barrier reef, with visibility exceeding 30 metres on a clear day. The Caicos Barrier Reef – the world’s third-largest coral reef system – runs the length of the archipelago, largely intact and rich with marine life. Wall dives drop abruptly into depths of thousands of feet; whale sharks, manta rays and humpback whales move through in season. For anyone drawn to the sea, this is serious territory.

What distinguishes The Turks and Caicos Islands, however, is their restraint. Cruise ships do not dock along Grace Bay. Height restrictions are enforced. Development is kept deliberately low-rise. The effect is subtle but profound: beaches with room to breathe, roads that rarely feel rushed and a pace that hasn’t been engineered for show.

The properties that have gravitated here reflect that ethos – Amanyara’s pavilions occupy a protected nature reserve, COMO Parrot Cay lays claim to its own private island and Wymara Resort + Villas fronts Grace Bay’s celebrated shoreline. Luxury here favours understatement over theatre.

Increasingly, the island’s culinary identity is sharpening, too. Conch – pulled fresh from surrounding waters – remains central, but chefs are beginning to treat the marine larder with new precision and ambition. For somewhere historically defined by its aquatic appeal, the kitchen is the next frontier.

A TASTE OF THE ISLANDS

Da Conch Shack, Providenciales Toes in the sand, cold beer in hand. Fresh conch – salad, fritters, grilled – served on the beach, with the Junkanoo band marching along the shore every Wednesday night.

Coco Bistro, Grace Bay The island’s most iconic table – Caribbean fusion beneath a canopy of coconut palms, fairy lights strung through the fronds and a coconut pie whose reputation precedes it.

Seven Restaurant, Seven Stars Resort Grace Bay’s fine-dining benchmark. Fresh seafood, aged steaks and produce from its hydroponic farm. The kind of kitchen that takes its ingredients seriously.

Indigo, Wymara Resort Chef Andrew Mirosch’s Caribbean-inspired menu – Mahi Mahi, chargrilled meats, an impressive cocktail list and a firepit terrace overlooking the pool. Reservations are essential.



Wymara Resort + Villas



Amanyara



COMO Parrot Cay



BALI IN BALANCE

Bali exerts a particular pull – not through one defining quality, but contrasts revealed over time. Four Seasons engages with that magnetism from two distinct directions, showing just how differently the island reads from one vantage point to the next. At Sayan, attention turns inward through landscape, ritual and creative tradition; at Jimbaran Bay, the emphasis pivots outward – towards shore, sociability and sensory ease.



FOUR SEASONS RESORT BALI AT SAYAN

Few arrivals match the sense of occasion here. A suspension bridge at canopy height leads to a circular lotus pond seemingly suspended above rainforest, where the property's rice-bowl architecture becomes clear before villas descend into the Ayung River Valley below. Or – uniquely – arrive by white-water raft from Jimbaran Bay, an experience exclusive to Four Seasons guests. Spiritual significance here isn't incidental, something resident mentor Ibu Fera discusses openly when exploring its "sacred energy". Engagement centres on the surroundings – guided walks through working rice paddies, cycling into neighbouring villages and Legong performances. Wellness takes its cues straight from the terrain, with the Sacred River Spa referencing the river's own energy, while dining maintains that connection through Sokasi's multi-course Chef's Table menu, including forgotten recipes and Balinese classics.



FOUR SEASONS RESORT BALI AT JIMBARAN BAY

If Sayan elicits attention inland, Jimbaran turns it towards the coast. Thatched villas follow Bukit Permai's hillside slope above a calm, three-mile bay of white sand – echoing Balinese village layouts, each contained within its own walls. Courtyard gardens and infinity-edge plunge pools that seem to hang off the cliffs deepen that connection, while floating breakfasts and dedicated butlers in Residence Villas take the effort out of retreat entirely. But there's more at play than pure escapism. Regional cooking classes at Jala Cooking Academy use resort-grown ingredients, weekly Indonesian feasts and Kecak dance performances animate the evenings, the walkable fishing village is well worth a visit, and surfers chase waves at long-respected surf break, G-Land. Wellness holds equal weight, from The Healing Village Spa's multi-sensory approach to the Longevity Garden's self-directed recovery – though the sea here has always been the most persuasive of therapists.





THE ESSENCE OF AMAN



*Aman doesn't announce itself.
It rarely needs to.*

Since the opening of Amanpuri in 1988, the brand has followed a remarkably consistent instinct: place first, everything else in response. The name derives from the Sanskrit for peace, but the more telling detail is how that idea is handled. Not as a promise, but as a condition. Space, quiet and an easiness to the days that never feels engineered.

Across 36 properties in 20 countries, this approach holds – from the olive groves and terracotta geometry of Amanjena and the hilltop stillness of Amanzoe to the temple-shadowed calm of Amansara, the rice terraces of Bali and Amanwella's crescent-shaped Sri Lankan shoreline. Each reads differently, as it should. Buildings sit low in the landscape or disappear into it entirely. Materials are drawn from the immediate surroundings. The effect is less about design language and more about restraint – architecture that knows when to step back.

What follows is a particular kind of existence. Privacy is not engineered through separation alone, but through scale: generous proportions, low room counts, the sense that no one is quite where you are. Service operates in the same register – attentive, precise and largely invisible. Cultural references are handled with care – not decorative, but embedded; while cuisine, materials and rituals all take their cues from the land.

What links them is harder to quantify. A consistency of atmosphere, not appearance, recognised immediately by those who return. Aman is not a style. It's a way of editing the world.

TANGALLE, SRI LANKA

AMANWELLA

Set within a mature coconut grove above a crescent of golden sand near Tangalle, Amanwella reads as quietly as its setting: the influence of Geoffrey Bawa – the Sri Lankan architect who defined the island's approach to building with the landscape, not against it – is present in the proportions, materials and the way the architecture gives ground to its surroundings.

Thirty suites step along a gentle rise facing the Indian Ocean, each with a private plunge pool and terrace, arranged so that nothing interrupts the line of the sea. Identical in layout, they differ only by elevation and view, their interiors opening on both sides to terraces and walled courtyards that draw in light and air. Pathways thread through the palms to open-sided pavilions, where the restaurant and lounge look out above the bay. Steps lead down to a 47-metre pool aligned with the horizon, and beyond, the beach club takes the western edge of the sand, shaded by palms and set up for long, lingering informal lunches.



Amanzoe, Greece



Amanera, Dominican Republic



Aman Toyko, Japan

CORFU, GREECE

CONRAD CORFU

Hilton's Conrad brand launches its second Grecian outpost later this year – and it's chosen southern Corfu, quieter and less charted than the north, to make its entrance. With a Michelin-starred chef, a spa that draws from bathhouse geometry and near-universal private pool access, this is a confident, not cautious debut.

Around Lefkimmi, the Corfu coastline flattens and eases – long pale beaches, olive groves, shallow Ionian water that falls somewhere between turquoise and glass. Come August, Conrad will plant its flag here with 136 rooms, suites and villas, many with private heated pools, Jacuzzis or access to the Aqua Piazza – a sprawling lagoon that pulls the resort together without corralling its guests.

The 280-square-metre flagship four-bedroom villa – designed as an elegant private retreat – spans three levels with indoor and outdoor pools and more than 1200 square metres of terraces. Throughout the resort, Cube Concept's architecture, with décor by Hotel IM and Place in Space Architects, traces the island's Venetian lineage in limestone floors, a Palladiana marble walkway and a glass-roofed atrium that recalls Corfu's open squares. Alongside it all, the Anasynthesis art programme, curated by Saint of Athens' Nikos Paleologos, places works by Kostis Velonis and Antonios Fikos in dialogue with Corfu's complex past.

Michelin-starred Alexandros Tsiotinis of CTC Urban Gastronomy oversees signature à la carte restaurant Komos – one of three on-site eateries, while the kids' club, in partnership with Worldwide Kids, inhabits a treehouse-like micro village among olive trees and eucalyptus, complete with wooden play structures and an open-air cinema.





SIX SENSES HOTELS & RESORTS

Two countries... Two totally unique reasons to travel beyond the usual luxe amenities. From an underground wellness speakeasy to an urban rooftop skypool, each of these upcoming launches proves that great stays are born not from polish, but from place.

LONDON, UK

SIX SENSES LONDON

This year's most intriguing London hotel opening – and Six Senses' UK debut – transforms Bayswater's iconic Whiteley's Art Deco emporium into an urban sanctuary with subterranean surprises.

A novel urban retreat of 109 rooms and suites and 14 residences, all with refined townhouse vibes, Six Senses London also unveils "The Underworld" – an underground wellness speakeasy with cryotherapy, sound healing and biohacking programmes. Above ground, lobby plants invite conversation in the cosy bar and lounge, a 20-metre pool sees bathers swim where 1920s Londoners once shopped for silk scarves and a rewilded courtyard creates countryside illusions. A world first, Six Senses Place members' club adds co-working, dining and urban reconnection spaces, while the Alchemy Bar lets you create your own skincare potions. It's Edwardian heritage meets regenerative hospitality, all just steps from Hyde Park.





MILAN, ITALY

SIX SENSES MILAN

Milan's fashion insiders will have a new sanctuary later this year: 68 rooms inside a 15th-century convent where nuns once prayed and where tomorrow's designers will take refuge between shows.

Located in artistic Brera, rooms face inward to peaceful cloisters – providing blessed silence from the district's gallery-hopping crowds. Original frescoes and ancient stone arches frame refined Italian interiors crafted from arabescato marble and antique brass detailing. Below ground, wellbeing treatments happen in a Roman spa among archaeological ruins. Above, a rooftop sky pool offers Milano skyline views between seasonal deli tastings and rotating designer pop-ups. The artisan-in-residence programme lets guests learn traditional crafts during Design Week, while a secret courtyard garden provides Brera's most coveted green space, complemented by a dedicated Earth Lab and speciality restaurant serving seasonal gastronomy.

FREEDOM TO EXPLORE, CONFIDENCE TO WANDER

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We take care of the intricate details so you can focus on what truly matters – those rare, goosebump moments that remind you why you travel at all. Whether watching lions move through morning light, hearing prayer flags stir in the wind, feeling sand shift beneath your feet, or standing breathless before something vast and wordless, we're there in the background – a well-travelled friend who knows when to guide – and when to let you just soak it all in.

GET IN TOUCH
