

# Holidays

## DEALS OF THE WEEK

**SAVE 50%** **UK SAFARI**  
Try a wildlife adventure holiday in the wilds at Port Lympne Hotel & Reserve, with 50 per cent off safaris, animal encounters and stays at Pinewood glamping. Book by January 21 for bookings until March 31 (aspinalfoundation.org).

**SAVE 40%** **OMANI OASIS**  
Discover Oman in 2025 with five nights at Shangri-La's beachfront Al Waha Hotel, now from £1,585pp B&B. Price includes Oman Air flights from Heathrow, private transfers and luggage. Book by January 31 for travel until December 24 (inspiringtravel.co.uk).

**SAVE 50%** **SPA BREAKS**  
Champneys is offering half-price three-night stays at all of its eight locations; 40 per



**BEACHFRONT:** The Al Waha Hotel in sunny Oman

cent off two-nights; 30 per cent off one-night; and 20 per cent off spa days. Book by January 2 for stays until June (champneys.com).

**UNDER £150** **DISNEY DELIGHT**  
Enjoy a three-night Disneyland Paris trip from £147pp, staying at three-star Campanile Val de France, a short drive away. Includes flights and shuttle to Disney Village. Park entry extra (easysjet.com).

**SAVE 29%** **WINTER SUN**  
A seven-night break at Villa

Bianchi in Lanzarote is now £1,266, or £211pp, based on a maximum six sharing on January 4. The villa has a private heated pool, games room and is just moments from the beach (solmarvilla.com).

**SAVE £110** **ICELANDIC ADVENTURE**  
See the Northern lights at New Year with a seven-night self-drive tour for £1,389pp. Includes accommodation and car hire, departing December 31 (veroad.co.uk).

Laura Sharmar

By Jane Knight

## EUROPE

**More in Menorca**  
HAVING opened boutique Son Vell on Menorca last year, next summer Vestige Collection is adding two adults-only hotels that share a historic farm estate in the north – Son Ermita and Birdi-ufa. Guests will have golf buggies to commute between the seaview of the former and valley of the latter. Room rates yet to be set (vestige-collection.com).

**Mountain bolthole**  
THE South Tyrol capital of Bolzano is surrounded by peaks. Perfectly timed to open for spring, Falkensteiner Hotel Bozen has an extensive spa with a view, plus a rooftop restaurant. B&B doubles from £151 as opening offer, including spa treatment and dining credit (falkensteiner.com).

**Blissful Burgundy**  
A SISTER hotel to the superb Royal Champagne Hotel & Spa, Chateau de la Commaraine is set to open in the heart of Pommard in autumn. It will have 37 rooms with exposed stone walls, a bar in the 14th-century tower, a spa with outdoor pool, an estate winery and fine dining. B&B doubles from £665 (chateaulacommaraine.com).

**Chic Cyprus**  
THE Cypriot capital Nicosia, straddling the island's north and south, is home to Thanos Hotels' ten-room Amyth of Nicosia, which opens in March. Converted from a school in the historic part of the city, it has a courtyard with olive trees, and minimalist, modern rooms, some with balconies. B&B doubles cost from £200 (amythhotels.com).

**Swish in Sweden**  
SWEDEN gets its first Relais & Chateaux hotel next month when Stockholm Stadshotell opens in an 1870s building in the trendy district of Södermalm. Along with 32 rooms in soft hues, there's a courtyard restaurant and fine dining in an old chapel. B&B doubles from £226 (stockholmstadshotell.com).

**Make for Matera**  
ROSA Alpina is being reborn as an Aman in the Dolomites and Nobu is opening in Rome, but the Italian hotel we're most excited about is Vetera Matera, a Relais &



# The best hotel openings in 2025

Chateaux property due to open in March in Basilicata. Some of its 63 rooms scattered around Matera's Sassi will be embedded in the rock, as will the spa. B&B doubles cost from €450 – around £380 – (veteramateram.com).

**Port in Porto**  
SET in former port houses and warehouses, Tivoli Kopke Porto Gaia Hotel is due to open early next year in association with port wine house Kopke, which traces its roots back to 1638. It will have views over the historic city, two pools and a spa. B&B doubles from €195 – around £160 (tivolihotels.com).

## WORLDWIDE

**Cut a dash in Dubai**  
WHEN superyacht-shaped Jumeirah Marsa Al Arab opens at the end of the first quarter, it will complete Jumeirah's trilogy of marine-based hotels, joining the Burj Al Arab, which looks like a sail, and wave-shaped Jumeirah Beach. Marsa

## From a trendy motel in Manchester to a remote Indonesian island idyll, our expert checks out new places to check in around the world next year

Al Arab will have 386 rooms, five pools, 11 restaurants, nine bars and a three-storey spa. Rates yet to be set (jumeirah.com).

**Coastal Colombia**  
COLOMBIA has shaken off its chequered past and is attracting hotel groups such as Four Seasons to open in coastal hotspots such as Cartagena.

Near the historic walled city, the 131-room hotel will incorporate the 18th-century San Francisco temple and 1920s Club Cartagena. There will also be a rooftop pool bar. Due to open mid-2025. Rates yet to be set (fourseasons.com).

**Cowboy country**  
IF YOU like the Paramount series Yellowstone, take a look at One&Only

**STRIKING:** A computer image of Lemala Osonjoji Lodge, top. Above: A room at the restaurant and a rooftop pool with a view of the skyline. Rates yet to be set (mamashelter.com).

**Singapore for a snip**  
MOVING into Asia with its 20th worldwide hotel, chic but cheap brand Mama Shelter is set to open in Singapore early next year. On Killiney Road, it will have 110 rooms, inventive cuisine in the restaurant and a rooftop pool with a view of the skyline. Rates yet to be set (mamashelter.com).

**Wild in West Timor**  
THE tagline of Nihi Sumba resort in Indonesia, set around a long swathe of beach, is the edge of wildness. Now wildness is pushing its boundaries to Rote island, off West Timor. Nihi Rote will have 22 thatched pool villas, spa safaris and surfing along its beachfront. Due to open at the end of 2025. Rates yet to be set (nihi.com).

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ABTA

View Offers

**South Downs stop-off**  
KNOWN for reasonable rates and cool designs, The Signet Collection is set to open its fourth property in Alfriston, East Sussex, in March. The Alfriston will have 38 rooms and champion local produce. A spa has an outdoor pool and walks include one to nearby Rathmily Wine Estate. B&B doubles from £150 (signet ltd).

**Edinburgh townhouse**  
OPENING in time for the festival, Edinburgh 16-20 on Castle Street is due to join Perle Hotels' highland boltholes this summer. With a private



**GOOD TASTE:** How the diner at Mollie's should look

## IN THE UK... STAY AT A FIRE STATION – OR A FORMER EMBASSY

members' club feel, the 28-room townhouse will be styled with wood paneling, marble and leather. Initially, it will offer only breakfast and a bar but a restaurant is due to open later. B&B doubles from £50 (perlehotels.com).

**Northumberland nights**  
CONVENIENT for Harry Potter fans visiting Alnwick Castle, Baillifgate Hotel is due to open its doors in June. Set in a Georgian property and an adjoining five-storey modern building, the 48 rooms, suites and apartments will be contemporary in style; some with views of the

Norman castle. A bar and restaurant complete the picture. B&B doubles from £172 (bespokehotels.com).

**Manchester motel**  
BRANCHING out from its roadside sister properties in Oxfordshire and Bristol, Mollie's Manchester opens in the city centre by the end of summer. In the Old Granada Studios, the 128-room hotel includes hip bunk rooms. You can tuck into lobster rolls and peanut and jelly pie in the diner and listen to live music in the bar. Doubles from £120, excluding breakfast (mollies.com).

**Newcastle fire station**  
A DECADE after Gotham Hotels opened in Manchester, it is expanding into Newcastle in the city's former fire station. Expect opulent design in the 60 rooms

and decadent cocktails in the bar when it opens in spring. Another 30 rooms are due to open in the autumn when Gotham also plans to launch another property in Bristol's old Guildhall. Rates yet to be set (hotelgotham.co.uk).

**Embassy quarters in London**  
CONVERTED from the US Embassy on Grosvenor Square, the Chancery Rosewood has an interesting history. Add an Asaya wellbeing spa, dining options and 146 spacious rooms, along with Rosewood's reputation, and you'll understand the buzz about this opening. Rates yet to be set (rosewoodhotels.com).

**Florida fantasy**  
WITH its own entry on to the new Universal Epic Universe theme park, due to open in May, Universal Helios Grand Hotel will also have views of the rides from some of its 500 rooms. Check out the How To Train Your Dragon family suites. Hotel guests get early park entry. Rooms from \$385 – around £320 – excluding breakfast (doeshotels.com).

**Crater's edge in Tanzania**  
SWEEEPING views over the rim of Tanzania's Nyirongoro Crater are offered at Lemala Osonjoji Lodge, which is expected to open in the summer. The retreat's 20 suites have log stoves and share a pool. Guests can access the crater floor via the Lemala road. From \$690pp per day all-inclusive – around £550 (lemalacamps.com).