

# TATLER<sup>®</sup>

## *Travel Guide 2023*

*The 101 best hotels in the world*



*Paint the town red:  
Villa Palladio's  
vibrant interiors*

# HOT TICKETS

*It's not just what to do and who to know, it's how to find the best of the best while on the go. Tatler has the inside track on where you need to be in 2023*

## WHIRL OF INTERIORS

Indophiles will rejoice at Barbara Miolini's fantastical new place outside Jaipur. It oozes old-world glamour and is fast becoming the chicest boutique hotel in the environs; and in true Miolini style – well, her Bar Palladio is the liveliest in the Pink City for arancini and rose sharbats – she has restored this heritage destination with her usual aplomb. Featuring a riot of red-and-white candy stripes in each of the villa's nine bedrooms, it's as elegant and rarified as Miolini's rossini cocktails. Book through India Beat, who are the best specialists to conjure up the Jaipur trip of your dreams, including after-hours tours of Gem Palace. [indiabeat.co.uk](http://indiabeat.co.uk)

BEST FOR  
BOLD COLOUR

## LA ISLA BONITA

Menorca – the calm, collected sister of party-planet Ibiza and touristy Mallorca – is having a moment. Sophistication comes in the form of the new Hauser & Wirth gallery. And though good hotels are thin on the ground here, there are still some lovely boltholes – the most elegant by far being the private villa belonging to hotelier Arnaud Zannier. Part of Finca Bellavista – an idyllic private estate on the south-west coast – the luxurious white-washed farmhouse boasts free-standing baths and easily accommodates five super-king-sized beds. Of course, there's a private chef on hand to hire; but where you really need to be is Nonna Bazaar, the farm-to-table oasis on the north tip of the island. With its DJ and refined Mediterranean cuisine, there's a quiet buzz surrounding this place, where highlights include grilled asparagus and roasted chicken perfectly prepared with herbs from the garden. [zannierhotels.com](http://zannierhotels.com); [nonnabazaar.com](http://nonnabazaar.com)

BEST FOR  
BALEARIC BEAT

*Relax on Finca Bellavista's sun-drenched pool terrace*

## GREAT SCOTT

A zingy gazpacho; goat's cheese served on a fig leaf still warm from the Spanish sun; salt-baked fish from the wood-fired oven... when you dine on chef Gioconda Scott's terrace in Carmona, Andalucia, you eat the food of the gods. For even more of a good thing, head to the restaurant she's taken over – the historic Casino de Cazalla, which wouldn't look out of place in Havana. Scott cut her teeth as manager of Garzon restaurant, where she was taught how to fire-grill by Francis Mallmann himself. Not only is her cooking spellbinding, it's also in the blood (her mother, Charlotte, runs Trasierra, the ultimate Andalucian hideaway. Mother and daughter are now planning a cookery course.) It all makes for the dream evening out; the sound of flamenco guitar strumming in the air, hundreds of candles laid out, and an exquisite feast – Scott is next summer's hot ticket. Contact [giocondascott@gmail.com](mailto:giocondascott@gmail.com)

*Trasierra, an Andalucian retreat run by Gioconda Scott's mother Charlotte*



*Relax at Riad Mena & Beyond, Marrakech*

BEST FOR  
CALM & ZEN

## SEEING STARS

A deep sense of peace envelops you from the moment you step through the heavy wooden doors and into the picturesque courtyard of hotelier Philomena Schurer Merckoll's Moroccan haven. What truly shines through is simplicity, turned into an art form here, from the small but perfectly formed pool to the hammam (no spa, per se, but the best lymphatic drainage masseuse on standby). Next year Merckoll will offer personalised holistic retreats that guide guests towards enlightenment by means of a crack team of therapists, healers and yogis, alongside delicious organic fare and hiking trips through the Atlas mountains. [riadmenaandbeyond.com](http://riadmenaandbeyond.com)

## TIME TRAVEL

What could be more alluring than slinking off in the warm evening light for a cruise on the Belmont, Cliveden's 1934 wooden slipper-launch? Drinking a glass or two of chilled Laurent-Perrier, with a hamper full of perfectly-cut sandwiches and scones: it's the most majestic way to explore the backwaters of the Thames. Pottering past the architectural wonders of Cookham Dean – from the mock-Tudor cottages to the cricket pavilion – feels like diving into Jerome K Jerome's *Three Men in a Boat* or Kenneth Grahame's *The Wind in the Willows*. Enjoying such surroundings as these – in such languid fashion – is a hard experience to beat. [clivedenhouse.co.uk](http://clivedenhouse.co.uk) >

BEST FOR THE  
LIFE AQUATIC

*Cruise along the Thames on Cliveden's Belmont boat*

BEST FOR FOOD  
OF THE GODS



**BEST FOR PEACE  
IN PROVENCE**

*Château Fonscolombe:  
the Provençal idyll*

**LA VIE EN ROSÉ**

If you have a dream of Provence, it must surely resemble Château Fonscolombe, this charming, 18th-century, pale-blue-shuttered hotel. Sitting proud in acres of immaculately manicured grounds, it hangs like some French Shangri-La in the ravishing rural hills. The romantic gardens filled with Atlas cedar trees – one of which was planted by our late Queen Mother – remain a huge draw; and in its incarnation as a hotel, its interiors are still resplendent with chinoiserie wallpapers. Today it has a particularly bewitching air, created by the courtyard clock face; for, when the time came for its then-owners to sell the chateau, the hands froze at 11:11am as they signed the papers. Observed by lichen-covered statuary, a lunch fuelled by rosé under the shade of the oak tree by the pool is a heady affair. The epitome of faded elegance. [fonscolombe.fr](http://fonscolombe.fr)

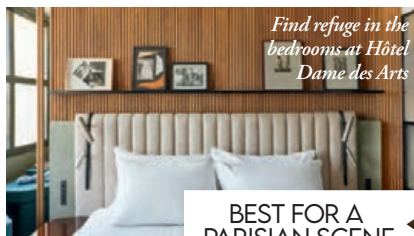
**ONE NIGHT IN BANGKOK**

Como Metropolitan is one of the most consistently fine food destinations in Bangkok. In a city not short of a good restaurant, Nahm is a long-established favourite. And while the cooking is homely, the attention to detail is hawk-like: the soups come from carefully prepared stocks; the spicy salads, and a stew with wagyu beef and coconut shoots, are stellar. But one taste of chef Pim Techamuanvith's southern yellow curry with blue swimmer crabs will send you into the stratosphere (as will the traditional Thai herbal massage in the Como Shambhala spa). The hotel is the ultimate in pared-back elegance: all white and light, symmetrical and stunning. Book through Wix Squared, who can arrange the most glamorous tours of Bangkok. [wixsquared.com](http://wixsquared.com)

**A GOOD GRILLING**

Aristos, art-dealers and Mayfair hedge-funders know a good thing when they see one. And they've been running to and from the Connaught Grill, a purveyor of pure gastronomic joy, ever since it opened in 1955. Today it remains a real chefs' restaurant – foodie but not showing off – but now with soft lighting, good acoustics, and carpentry raised to the status of art. The team from George Nakashima Woodworkers has created a temple of zen-like elegance, and the furniture here could be on show at The Met.

On the table are trays of Gillardeau oysters, a reimagined Scotch egg with truffle mayonnaise, and Balik smoked salmon with horseradish and avocado sorbet. But of course, the real highlight is the fabulous meat and fish – turbot a speciality – grilled over British hardwood charcoal; especially the slabs of Herefordshire rib-eye that are rolled out on a silver trolley for Sunday lunch. Sommelier Manuel is on hand to recommend the most delicious Barolo or supremely well-chilled Puligny-Montrachet. Not to be missed are the crêpes suzette and a sensational tarte tatin. [the-connaught.co.uk](http://the-connaught.co.uk)



*Find refuge in the  
bedrooms at Hôtel  
Dame des Arts*

**BEST FOR A  
PARISIAN SCENE**

**VIEW TO KILL**

Set to be the best rooftop in Paris when it opens this winter, Hôtel Dame des Arts is where you'll want to be next summer, drinking ice-cold Sancerre and gazing at a heady panorama that encompasses the Eiffel Tower, the Sacré-Coeur and the golden dome of Les Invalides. The mood at this mid-century pleasure-dome in the Latin Quarter embodies boho-Left-Bank glamour but has a totally original take: Raphael Navot's interiors are furiously stylish, especially the mesmerising fluted-oak bedroom walls. [damedesarts.com](http://damedesarts.com)



Casablanca  
carry-on,  
£3,495,  
**GLOBE-  
TROTTER**

**BA ALL THE WAY**

*Next year's new Caribbean hotspots are set to be Aruba and Guyana, thanks to British Airways's new routes, which launch next spring. And, as ever, the champagne is more than flowing in Club World... (britishairways.com)*

**BEST FOR  
CRAB CURRY**



*Como Metropolitan Bangkok's Nahm restaurant overlooks the water*



**BEST FOR  
SKI HEAVEN**

*Snack on truffle toast at Armancette's Le Mont Joly Bistrot*

**PEAK GLAMOUR**

Suppose you want to go skiing somewhere very convenient – say, Megève, which is just over an hour from Geneva – but you also want to stay somewhere small, cosy and soft-snowfall-quiet, with the smell of fresh bread and coffee in the morning, the siren-call of a bubbling spa by day and lashings of gourmet indulgence at night? Well, Armancette, a chalet-hotel with 17 rooms and five stars, is the answer. Opening just before the pandemic in Saint Nicolas de Vérocé – one pretty, sepia-tinted street and a jewel of a baroque church – this cocoon of dark brushed wood, chocolate shades and natural stone gives you a secret pass. From here, you can ski over to the all-expansive sunny joys of the Evasion Mont-Blanc region: it's a hush-hush back door to 445 kilometres of 230 slopes and majestic tree-sprinkled views that are almost absurdly perfect. Return to the congenial calm of Armancette's library for an unmissable appointment with homemade cakes – lemon and vanilla brioche-style confections – as well as giant hot chocolates and a choice of teas. [armancette.com](http://armancette.com)

**TAKING MANHATTAN**

Petula Clark might have sung about the delights of Downtown, but right now you want to be bang in the middle of Fifth Avenue. Specifically at no 250 – because Uptown, where the glass and silverware sparkle like nowhere else, will forever be the place to be. (Just look at Juan Santa Cruz, who has now brought his eponymous restaurant to the Upper East Side; or Robin Birley, who is planning to launch his first stateside club here.) Still, at the heart of the action, The Fifth Avenue Hotel – sumptuously designed by Martin Brudnizki takes the prize for the most lavish opening. There's an array of restaurants, and some of the best terrace suites in the whole city. The herald of a new gilded age, for sure. [thefifthavenuehotel.com](http://thefifthavenuehotel.com)

**BELINDA'S, JAMAICA**

Make like Beyoncé and Jay Z, who love nothing more than imbibing the high-low spirit of Port Antonio: kicking back in the hidden lagoons, eating spiny lobster and swimming in water the colour of jade. If you crave the same scene, then book into one of the illustrious properties owned by hotelier and music producer Jon Baker, who can also give you entrée into this stretch of the island's northeast coast like no one else. For example, he can sort a bamboo raft ride down the Rio Grande for lunch at Jamaica's very own river café, headed by the area's superstar chef Belinda. At this barefoot-bohemian shack, she cooks for passing rafters on a wood-fired grill – as her mother Betty did for decades before – using local ingredients that she carries on her head when taking the long walk down from her mountain home. Her signature dishes include the delicious Crayfish Coconut Rundown (with crayfish the size of lobsters), chicken fricassee served with roasted breadfruit, dumplings and callaloo. [geejamhotel.com](http://geejamhotel.com)

**SWEET LIKE CHOCOLATE**

To sojourn in São Tomé and Príncipe is to hear the name of Florentine chocolatier Claudio Corallo; and from the time you disembark at the island-nation's airport, you'll catch it whispered in reverent tones. In 1974, Corallo moved to what was then Zaire and grew coffee; but as the country plunged into civil war in the 1990s, he fled to peaceful São Tomé and started on a quest for something sweeter: the perfect cacao bean. Some say he's still searching, others that he's already attained Nirvana. But one thing's for sure: after tasting, your life will change. [claudiocorallo.com](http://claudiocorallo.com)

**BEST FOR  
BEAUTY SLEEP**

*A stay at The Fifth Avenue Hotel is a dream come true*



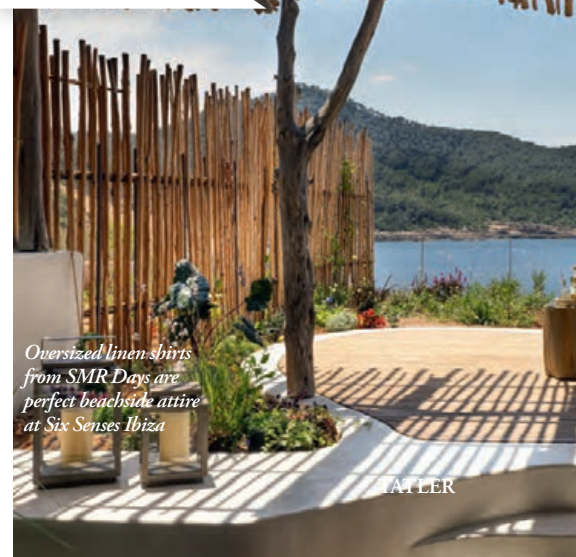
**WEAR TO GO**

This summer, SMR Days flew out of the shops at Six Senses Ibiza; and it's not hard to see why. The new menswear label excels in oversized cotton shirts, linen trousers and the most divine carry-everything-on-the-plane tote bags – all hand-woven. Its sustainable credentials are sky-high, too: it has partnered with Maison Bengal, a textile company that helps to fight poverty in Bangladesh, supporting women in marginalised communities. [smrdays.com](http://smrdays.com)

SMR Days X Maison Bengal bag, £135, **SMR DAYS**



**BEST FOR  
HOLIDAY SHOP**



*Oversized linen shirts from SMR Days are perfect beachside attire at Six Senses Ibiza*



**BEST FOR MODERNISTS**

*Eileen Gray's E-1027 villa perched on the edge of the Côte d'Azur*

**COME ON EILEEN**

The apogee of progressive style, Eileen Gray's villa E-1027 is a masterpiece, as elegant as it gets. Building on a swathe of Roquebrune-Cap-Martin, above a craggy shoreline, Gray redefined the rules here; and to take a private tour of this design mecca plus Le Corbusier's colourful cabin, which is literally next door, is an incomparable pleasure. (The man to thank for making this happen is Boris Messmer, the powerhouse GM of The Maybourne Riviera.) Hidden off a coastal path and shrouded in citrus trees, the villa is a sleek affair, its terrace flowing into the living areas, where Gray's statement gramophone trolley, Bibendum chairs and Mondrian-esque ceiling survive in situ. Then there are those epic views up to The Maybourne Riviera, another high temple of taste. They make you understand the sheer grace of the place. [maybournriviera.com](http://maybournriviera.com)

PHOTOGRAPHS: ALAMY; BIKRAMJI BOSE; NICOLAS BUISSON; MARIANNE CARTWRIGHT; HIGNETT; GAILLE LE BOULCAUT; FIGARO PHOTO; CAMERA PRESS; MARTIN MORRELL; ADRIAN MORRIS; MARTIA PEREZ; RICHARD POWERS; ANNE SCHLECHTER; CANETTY-CLARKE

**BEAUTY CONTEST**

Feel as fabulous abroad as you do when you're home. At Neville Hair and Beauty on Pont Street ask for the Herbal Hair Ritual with Domenico, a game-changer that goes far deeper into your hair shafts than a keratin treatment – and gives results that last up to four weeks. A further potent blend of herbs mixed with macadamia oil also works as a scalp micro-peel, and you'll be amazed by the gorgeously shiny and bouncy hair that emerges. (After that, you no longer need to fear helmet-hair while you après-ski on the slopes of St Moritz, or any whiff of frizz when you're lying on the beach at GoldenEye.) Moving down from the cranium, once you've experienced a divine microneedling facial from Tarryn Warren, you'll never want to go anywhere else. The genius combination of LED red-light therapy and magnificent product formulation that's involved can prolong the glow of a tan if you visit before and after exposure (a great alternative to flying out to spend a month at Chiva-Som). As for your feet, put them in the hands of Bastien Gonzalez at the Mandarin Oriental Hyde Park. A miracle worker, his pedicures are the stuff of beauty legend – and the hotel environment is pretty blissful, too. Be sure to ask for Pierre, who will sculpt and massage your extremities to perfection. [nevillehairandbeauty.net](http://nevillehairandbeauty.net); [tarrynwarren.com](http://tarrynwarren.com); [mandarinoriental.com](http://mandarinoriental.com)



**BEST FOR SOUVENIRS**

*A weaver in Myanmar crafts products for King Charles III's Turquoise Mountain*

**ROYAL TOUCH**

The Turquoise Mountain charity is a source of lovely things for the home, all of them stylish and shippable. Founded in 2006 by King Charles III to revive traditional crafts, and to support heritage communities and artisans in Afghanistan and the Middle East, it also purveys an exquisite cornucopia of Myanmar crafts. It collaborated with designer Guy Oliver on the Prince's Lodge (the most elegant suite in The Connaught) and is planning a new suite next year. [turquoisemountain.org](http://turquoisemountain.org)

**SPOTLIGHT**

**BEST FOR PATMOS PARTIES**



*Entrance to the Cave of the Apocalypse on the island of Patmos*

**SAINTS AND SINNERS**

Patmos is most familiar to the Christian world as the place where John of Patmos wrote the Book of Revelation. The cave that doubled as his writer's room – and a beautifully frescoed monastery built by his followers – are both open to visitors today. And perhaps it's such a history that gives this Greek island its incomparable energy. Whatever the reason, midsummer visitors crowd into the old-town's *plateia* to swill down gin and tonics until it's time to go to Kasbah. The late-opening, late-running club has some of the best music in the Greek islands; and Licht, the house DJ, has revellers dancing until the morning light.

**MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM**

Folded into the grounds of Iford Manor, Rowley Cottage (with its Tudor-style porch, old twisting staircase and exposed beams), would make Cecil Beaton weep. Take lunch in the Petersham Nurseries-style restaurant, where they serve an exceptional tarte tatin. Afterwards, admire the medieval-style cloisters and Edwardian gardens designed by Harold Peto, which have been restored by the Cartwright-Hignett family with love. Don't miss the opera and jazz evenings in the height of summer. [ifordmanor.co.uk](http://ifordmanor.co.uk) □



**BEST FOR SUMMER NIGHTS**



*Iford Manor's cloisters were constructed in 1914 by Harold Peto, who lived there until his death*