



ROYAL MANSOUR MARRAKESH

Set within the ancient walls of the Marrakesh medina, close to the bustling Djemaa el Fna, the Royal Mansour is unrivalled in its architecture and attention to detail. Designed under the direction of King Mohammed VI, the hotel is surrounded by one and a half hectares of Moorish gardens and showcases the finest Moroccan hospitality. The three-storey riads are vibrant, with hand-painted mosaics, palatial bathrooms and rooftop terraces; there are indoor and outdoor pools, a spa and Michelin-starred restaurants overseen by the French chef Yannick Alléno and the Italian Alajmo brothers. LUKE ABRAHAMS *Royal Mansour, from £900 a room a night (www.royalmansour.com).*



PALÁCIO BELMONTE LISBON

The views across Lisbon from the terrace at Palácio Belmonte, a 15th-century property in the heart of the Alfama district, are some of the best in town. Once a favoured haunt of the Portuguese explorer Vasco da Gama, the hotel has recently welcomed famous faces including Christian Louboutin. Enjoy a glass of

port while watching the sun set over the River Tagus, before retreating to your suite, where original tiles are juxtaposed with contemporary artworks. The bathroom comes complete with rain showers and Acqua di Parma products, while some rooms offer bougainvillea-filled terraces overlooking the pool. ELLA PHILLIPS *Palácio Belmonte, from £460 a room a night (www.palaciobelmonte.com).*

ETT HEM STOCKHOLM

Situated in the centre of Stockholm's exclusive Larkstaden district, Ett Hem was originally a residential home built in the Arts and Crafts style. Today, guests are encouraged to treat the space as though it were their own, helping themselves to freshly cooked food in the kitchen, playing the grand piano in the sitting-room or enjoying a cup of tea in the courtyard. All 12 bedrooms have been beautifully curated by the interior designer Ilse Crawford, with thoughtful details such as hand-blown water glasses by the bed and Aesop toiletries in the bathrooms. SARAH RICHARDSON *Ett Hem, from about £450 a room a night (www.etthem.se).*



CITIES OF DREAMS

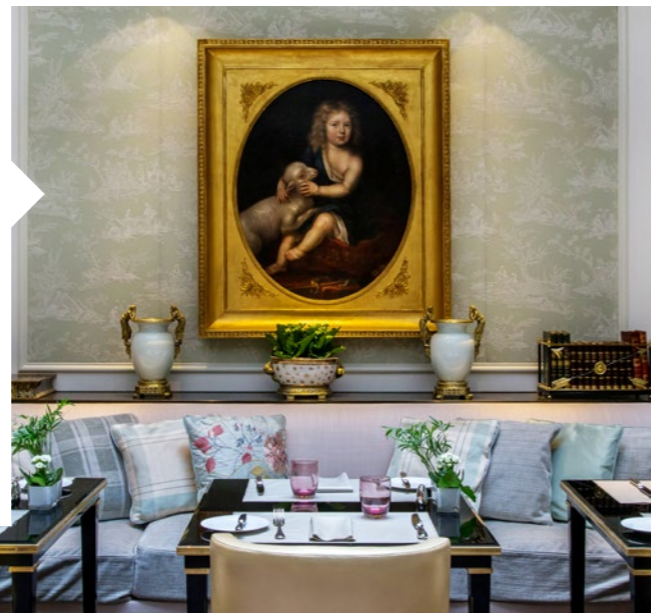
Inspiration for future weekend excursions – let these chic urban retreats be beacons of hope on your travel horizons...



SAN RÉGIS PARIS

Formerly a private residence, the San Régis emerged as a luxury hotel in 1923, and its status as a fashionable destination was already established by the time Christian Dior opened his first couture house around the corner on Avenue Montaigne in 1947. In the

1950s, it became a home-from-home for Carmel Snow, *Bazaar's* legendary editor-in-chief, and the magazine's photographer Richard Avedon, who shot several of his most memorable fashion stories here. Antiques, artworks, French silks and toile de jouy have remained integral to its character; and the service is as courteous today as it was when Snow conducted meetings from her penthouse suite, with its view of the Eiffel Tower. JUSTINE PICARDIE *San Régis, from about £350 a room a night (www.hotel-sanregis.fr).*



PALAZZO NAIADI ROME

Rarely has a hotel combined history and opulence so delightfully and so imaginatively as at the Palazzo Naiadi. Built on the foundations of ancient Rome's network of thermal baths and sitting in the heart of the magnificent semi-circular Piazza della Repubblica, the property celebrates its long heritage while offering top-notch 21st-century amenities. From the glorious rooftop pool, the dome of Saint Peter's looms on the skyline, while beneath the windows of our suite, the magical Naiadi fountain of nymphs, swans and horses cascades beside the Santa Maria degli Angeli basilica, designed by Michelangelo. JULIET NICOLSON *Palazzo Naiadi, from about £180 a room a night (www.dahotels.com).* □



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