

# High Life



**HOT**

**SHOT**

2025'S CHICEST HOTEL OPENINGS  
NYC PARTIES PUTTING THE BOOK IN CLUBBING  
ALEX JAMES'S MARRAKECH MEMORIES  
SHHH... THIS YEAR WE'RE TRAVELLING SILENTLY

JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2025

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MALDIVES ZAMBIAL SANTORINI LONDON ST LUCIA MARBELLA SARDINIA CHICAGO BOORUN JAVAJCA BARCELONA LOS ANGELES MARRAKECH BAHAMAS MEXICO

STEPHEN GRAHAM IS JUST GETTING STARTED



## STAY IN STYLE

# HOTELS OF THE MONTH



### FORTE VILLAGE RESORT SARDINIA, ITALY

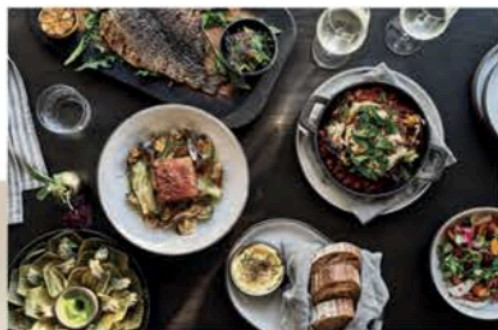
Families rejoice: everything you think you need in a holiday – plus haven't thought of – is fully catered for at this large, luxurious and laidback resort, which never feels crowded, even in high season. Set across 116 acres, its accommodation ranges from hotels to villas (Il Castello is top notch and two minutes' walk from the resort's private beach), along with 21 restaurants to suit every mood and palate. Top picks are Restaurant Sardo, which serves a set menu of Sardinian flavours, and the smart Belvedere, where even picky children are amply provided for. Activities are just as plentiful and include family beginner padel lessons, the Real Madrid Football Academy for soccer-mad kids, water sports, biking, and kids' and teens clubs. Of course, doing little is always an option, with a quiet, well-appointed spa and thalassotherapy garden, not to mention multiple pools to dip into as any remaining trace of cortisol drifts away. Book it with British Airways Holidays. [ba.com/fortevillage](http://ba.com/fortevillage)



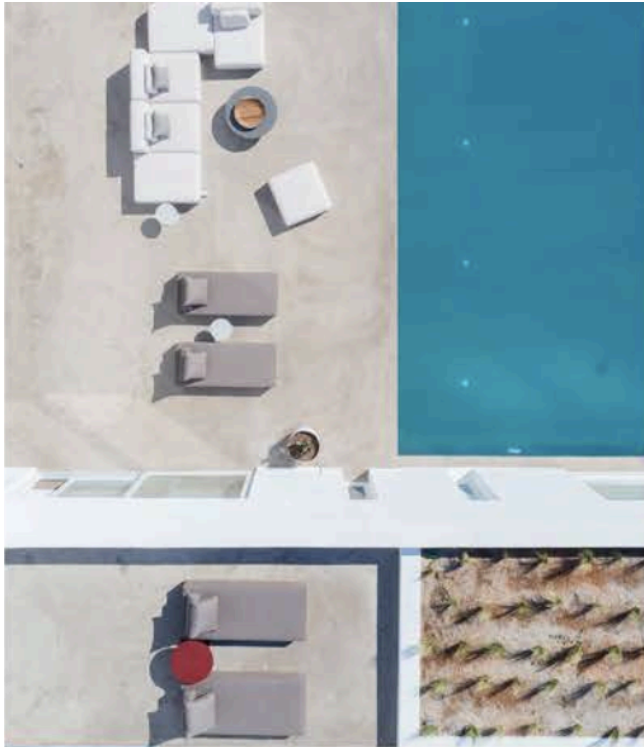
### THE INN AT MATTEI'S TAVERN, AUBERGE RESORTS COLLECTION LOS OLIVOS, CALIFORNIA, USA

Anyone who's watched *Sideways* will know of Santa Barbara as a wine region, but this beautiful 1886 stage-coach tavern turned retreat is perfect for any Californian road tripper looking to hitch their wagon. Weary travellers can enjoy a bourbon in the bar with well-heeled locals, feast on fine *filet* in the restaurant, then breakfast on superb *huevos rancheros*. The attention to detail in the clapboard cottages surrounding a restored water tower are incredible: four-poster beds, reading nooks, private patios with firepits for s'mores. There's a fabulous pool, lofty gym and yoga classes, plus seasonal events such as olive-oil samplings, wagon rides and cowboy camps. And with a host of wonderful tasting rooms within spitting distance, Los Olivos has everything an oenophile could ask for, plus a bar serving local IPAs, should you want a break from the grape.

Rooms from £640pn. [aubegeresorts.com/matteistavern](http://aubegeresorts.com/matteistavern)

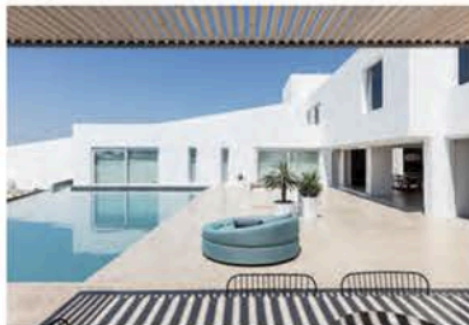






### ANDRONIS ARCADIA SANTORINI, GREECE

It's hard to imagine the whitewashed, cliff-cascading village of Oia is a five-minute walk from this serene, sprawling estate. Spacious, stripped-back suites in neutral shades harmonise with the natural surroundings, from cacti to scarlet bougainvillea and the glittering Aegean, which you can admire from your private plunge pool. The spa's scrub-massage combo is equally soothing, and there's plenty of buzz to balance out the repose. For a blissed-out boho setting, stunning sushi with a side of DJ spins and surreal sunsets over the island's largest pool, head to Pacman. Meanwhile, Beefbar serves gorgeous grills such as Black Angus from Australia, and sommelier Urania Papazisi offers insightful wine tours (the island is said to have more wine than water!). Another fine foodie feat is at Andronis' sister property in Oia: Lycabettus restaurant, whose *beurre blanc* cod with *yuzu koshō* is as impressive as the view from the cliff's edge. Book it with British Airways Holidays. [ba.com/andronis](http://ba.com/andronis)



Words: Rachael Ashley, Hannah Ralph, Helen Whicker, Agatha Zarzycki

### THE LODEN VANCOUVER, CANADA

Out of all the adjectives in the English language, 'Central. Quiet. Beautiful' is how the Loden describes itself. We'll add 'professional' (the reception staff will plan your entire day if you give them half a chance), 'warm' (the browns and bronzes contrast with downtown's icy blue skyscrapers to perfection) and, dare we say it, a little bit sexy – largely thanks to its dimly lit French bistro next door. In the 77 rooms upstairs, sliding wooden walls and floor-to-ceiling windows mean you never feel boxed in – although you won't mind retreating into the extra-deep tub after a bike ride around neighbouring Stanley Park. And while we love the Loden's signature King (well-placed mirrors make the whole thing look twice as big), its Halo penthouse is home to what might just be the city's most magnificent outdoor terrace, offering stadium views over the glittering shores of Coal Harbour. Freebies include an infrared sauna, gym, bike hire and a super science-y pillow menu. We'll add 'generous' to the list. Rooms from £248pn. [theloden.ca](http://theloden.ca)

