

TATTLER[®]

Travel Guide 2020

The 101 best hotels in the world





Arrival Deck,
Mandarin Oriental



Lake Cabin,
Lime Wood

LIME WOOD

New Forest, England

This chic country hotel is full of Georgian Regency splendour. The grounds are a pastoral scene of rolling meadows, lawns laid out with antique garden furniture, a greenhouse packed with tomatoes and herbs, and jasmine winding around archways. Inside, the décor is bright and airy. The courtyard bar with vivid orange velvet stools has a retractable glass roof through which light pours. The Angela Hartnett restaurant, Hartnett Holder & Co, serves delicious truffle pasta. Dotted around the estate, mini-luxe cottages are kitted out with four-poster beds, fireplaces and white wooden balconies that look out over the leafy majesty of the New Forest. The surrounding trails can be traversed come rain or shine (Hunter wellies are free to borrow from the boot room). Lime Wood proves the perfect spot to unwind: the spa is exceptional – with an outdoor plunge pool surrounded by sun-bleached decking and sun loungers; a long indoor pool for laps and a hydrotherapy pool where vigorous jets of water pummel tired backs. Floor-to-ceiling windows showcase the natural surroundings and add to a deep sense of calm. A tranquil herb garden on the spa roof is a hidden gem, where guests can recline on antique sun beds with the plumpest cushions, enjoying panoramic views over the countryside and the scent of lavender in the air. *Double, from £395 (limewoodhotel.co.uk).*

MANDARIN ORIENTAL

Bodrum, Turkey

This is the place to come when you need ocean therapy. Views from this stylish hotel, built into the cliffs that surround Paradise Bay overlooking the Aegean, are blue as far as the eye can see. There are huge villas with their own stretch of beach, as well as 132 spacious and airy suites and hotel rooms with a sleek modern aesthetic – dark wood, creamy marble and bathrooms lined with Acqua Di Parma products. Guests can pick up kayaks and paddle out across the bay. On the private beach, cabanas come with a butler service, but the excellent spa is the highlight of a stay here. With an amazing hammam, Oriental Qi treatments, Thai massage, Pilates and oxygen regenerating facials, you'll never want to leave. But do experience the open waters on an elegant traditional Turkish gulet, which the hotel can organise, motoring back into Paradise Bay after sunset. *Inspiring Travel Company (inspiringtravelcompany.co.uk) offers seven nights from £1,355, including flights and transfers.*



Meditation Hall,
Shou Sugi Ban House

SHOU SUGI BAN HOUSE

The Hamptons, USA

The first of its kind in the Hamptons, this is a serious wellness retreat where days are filled from 7am to 9pm with yoga, beach walks and treatments that range from sound baths and shamanic healing sessions to watsu water therapy. Rise at dawn for the tea ceremony, try the body awakening yoga class followed by the perfect Japanese/Nordic breakfast. Hydrotherapy is the focus at Shou Sugi Ban House. People emerge from the watsu pool – having been cradled by a therapist who has

gently moved, massaged and stretched them for an hour – as if from a deep sleep. Each day ends with a seasonal soak: when you return to your room you'll find Japanese bath milk, magnesium flakes, a sachet of flowers and herbs, and a handwritten note explaining how to get the most out of this end-of-day ritual. These holistic standards also extend to mealtimes, where the mostly plant-based menus are designed by Mads Refslund, a co-founder of Noma. Grown-on-site medicinal herbs and vegetables are farmed with 'beyond organic methods' that are described as 'spiritual-ethical-ecological' (this is the Hamptons). Expect to leave feeling improved and profoundly rested. *Double, from £785 (shousugibanhouse.com).*

People emerge from the watsu water therapy pool as if from a deep slumber