

TATTLER[®]

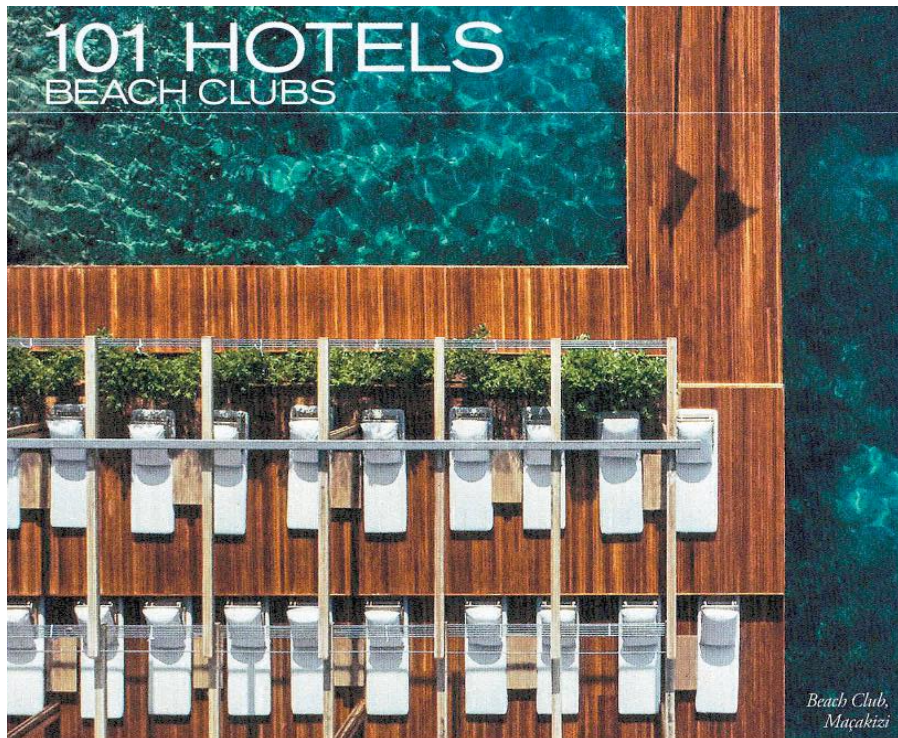
Travel Guide 2020

The 101 best hotels in the world



101 HOTELS

BEACH CLUBS



Beach Club,
Maçakızı

MAÇAKIZI

Bodrum Peninsula, Turkey

Maçakızı is, in a word, hot. Its hip-hotel credentials have endured since its opening in the Seventies, when it established itself as a favourite summer escape for the super-chic. This glamorous 'beach restaurant with rooms' is made for a good time, with daybeds and a pavilion decked out with comfortable sofas scattered with Rifat Ozbek's Yastik cushions. Maçakızı is the epitome of understated good taste across a myriad of chilling spaces, from the utterly serene palm-shaded pool to the lower level beach, a vibrant expanse of canopied decking that is *the* place to while away the day, going directly from sun lounger to sea as a DJ spins soft disco classics. Delicious cocktails are served by well-dressed waiters, relaxed lunches roll into mellow evenings, and you can always find the owner, Sahir Erozan, holding court at the bar, chatting to his loyal customers. With a fabulous restaurant conceived by Turkey's star chef, Aret Sahakyan, a gym, spa and Turkish bath to recover from the glut of indulgence, the chicest boutique and a yacht for rent, Maçakızı encapsulates the joyous spirit of a barefoot beach club at its best. *Double, from £368 (macakizi.com).*

Fuelled by GoldenEye's hibiscus bellinis, you can do the splits on the Bizot Bar table like Grace Jones

GOLDENEYE

Ochos Rios, Jamaica

Home to the most idyllic luxury escape for the world-weary traveller, GoldenEye is an irresistible pool of hedonism that beckons the likes of Kate Moss, Naomi Campbell and Sofia Richie, who love frolicking on the sands and diving for conches like modern-day Honey Ryders. This is, after all, where Ian Fleming dreamed up *Dr No* and Ursula Andress emerged from the sea in *that* bikini. Days drift by in a sun-drugged haze: you can snorkel in the coral gardens with the Oracabessa Foundation and local fishermen checking out GoldenEye's incredible marine conservation work. Button Beach is a dreamy waterfront hangout for barbecue lunches of grilled snapper and jerk; ditto, the Bamboo Bar for piña coladas and Red Stripes. Book ahead for owner Chris Blackwell's New Year's party, a legendary affair fuelled by rum punch and hibiscus bellinis, where you can dance to reggae and dancehall classics until the early hours, or do the splits on the Bizot Bar table like Grace Jones, before crashing out in one of the chic new beach huts or the dreamy lagoon villas. To act out your James Bond fantasy, rent the glorious Fleming Villa that sleeps up to 10 guests and comes with its own butler and staff. *Inspiring Travel Company (inspiringtravelcompany.co.uk) offers seven nights from £2,235, including flights and transfers.*



Lagoon Cottage,
GoldenEye

101 HOTELS

BUCOLIC BLISS

BORGHO PIGNANO

Tuscany, Italy

If you have a dream of Tuscany, then Borgo Pignano is it. This is a gloriously restored hamlet, sitting in 320 hectares of farmland, rolling vineyards and shady arbours filled with lavender, rosemary and wisteria that calls to mind an EM Forster idyll. This organic working estate produces most of the ingredients served in its restaurants, including a biodynamic Chianti wine, flour and honey; their homegrown strawberries are left in bowls as treats in your room. The place oozes eco-chic and this self-sufficiency extends to the ingenious heating system that pumps gloriously hot water to the 32 bedrooms. No distasteful single-use plastic here: amenities come in pretty pastel porcelain bottles. The art of doing nothing – *la dolce far niente* – is best achieved next to the sleek infinity pool carved out of the limestone cliffs while tossing back iced Vermentino. Among the distractions are cooking lessons, a painting school and soap-making classes. Explore on horseback, foot or bike, and end up at an enchanting picnic spot where the kitchen will have magicked up a lunch of dreams. *Double, from £265 (borgopignano.com).*



The art of doing nothing is best achieved next to the sleek infinity pool while tossing back iced Vermentino



PANTREPANT

Cockpit Country, Jamaica

The lush green heart of Jamaica is practically prelapsarian with magnificent waterfalls, tropical rainforests and mist-drenched hills. This jungly and relatively unexplored part of the island feels like virgin territory, but thanks to music maestro Chris Blackwell (who famously launched Island Records and made Bob Marley a star), you can explore the region from his sprawling private country retreat. Guests of Blackwell's beachside hotel GoldenEye can now rent a two-bedroom cottage at Pantrepant, his working farm. Pleasures include swimming in natural pools among the ruins of a sugar mill plantation and riding through fenceless countryside herding Red Pole cattle with Pantrepant's own cowboys. Days revolve around Mama J's fabulous farm-to-table home cooking – long, languid lunches of oxtail stew and jerk chicken with plenty of Whispering Angel wine, set up under the ancient guango tree. Afterwards, shoot the breeze on the verandah, relax in the hammocks and listen to Blackwell's playlists in one of the cottage's blissful nooks. The atmosphere is homely and seductive; the staff are divine. A real find. *POA, combined with a stay at GoldenEye (reservations@islandoutpost.com).*