

BEAUTIFUL HOTEL DESTINATIONS

Somewhere along the way, hotels have become a rightful destination on its own. Here are some luxury hotels scattered across the globe, that should be on top of your bucket list, post-pandemic.

BY HIRANMAYII AWLI MOHANAN

Palazzo Avino

📍 Amalfi Coast, Italy

Framed by Italy's Amalfi Coast, Palazzo Avino is crowned as the Pink Palace among the locals. This stunning five-star deluxe hotel was built in what was a 12th century private villa for an Italian noble family and opened as a hotel in 1997. Sitting high on Ravello's hillside, it overlooks the terraced gardens that climb from the sea. It's a regal view – and the hotel is the jewel in the crown. Robust with Italianate grandeur, featured in Palazzo Avino is the wine-barrel load with vaulted ceilings, polished-walnut furnishings and decorative tiled floors. It doesn't take much to fall in love with the vast art deco-style star that adorns the floor of one of the lounge areas – a tip of the hat to another golden age of glamour. When in Italy, do as the Italians and eat well in the hotel's Michelin-starred restaurant, Rossellini's – one of the most romantic dinner spots in town.

Website: palazzoavino.com

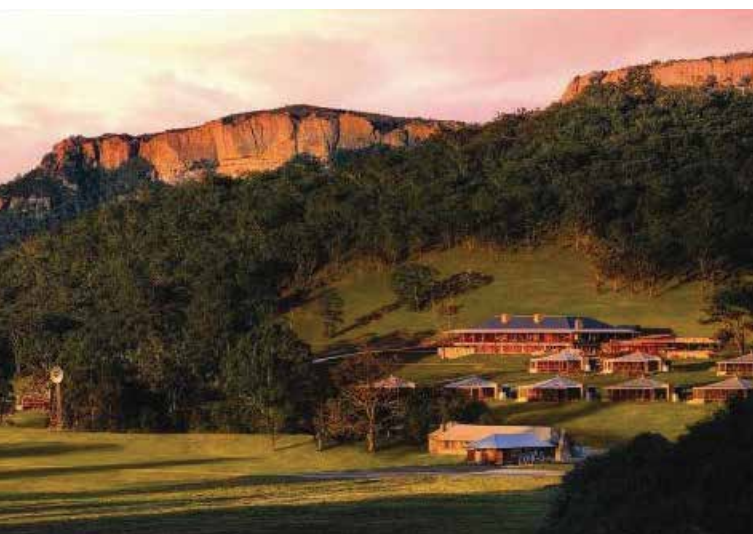


Emirates One & Only Wolgan Valley

📍 Blue Mountains, Australia

Nestled in the Greater Blue Mountains of Australia, Emirates One & Only Wolgan Valley offers luxury lodging through its charming, freestanding villas with bounteous space, cosy fireplace, private pools, picturesque surroundings and sumptuous styling. With access to over 7,000 acres of pristine wilderness, a world-class spa and private villas where in-room swimming pools come as standard, this is one special playground. The villas are a modern take on Federation-style villas (with stained-glass door panels teamed with natural stone, timber and fabrics), resplendent in a mix of warm natural woods, sandstone wall and private seven metre-long pool. The three secluded two-bedroom Wollemi Villas and the sole three-bedroom Wolgan Villa sit up the hill closer to the lodge, affording greater wildlife-watching opportunities.

Website: oneandonlyresorts.com/wolgan-valley



Fogo Island Inn

📍 Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada

It's not everyday that you can say you're at one of the four corners of Earth. This is what Fogo Island Inn, a futuristic, Noah's arc-looking architecture offers. Contemporary design is the theme at this 29-suite inn, featuring bespoke furnishings, sleek ensuite and a fine-dining menu. The dining room is one of the inn's iconic spaces, offering two glassy floor-to-ceiling windows angled together and resemble the bow of a ship reaching out towards the North Atlantic waters. Depending on the season, guests seated in the Dining Room can watch icebergs bobbing in the waves, whales breaching offshore, or enjoy a front-row view of a savage North Atlantic gale. The third-floor Newfoundland Rooms make for a romantic nest perfect for cuddling in front of the wood-stove fireplace or soak in a massive tub, all with a background of the ocean crashing into the rocky coastline just beyond your wall of floor-to-ceiling windows. The rooms are of sleek Scandinavian-influenced furniture, throw rugs and wallpaper from local artists.

Website: fgoislandinn.ca



Kudadoo

📍 Maldives

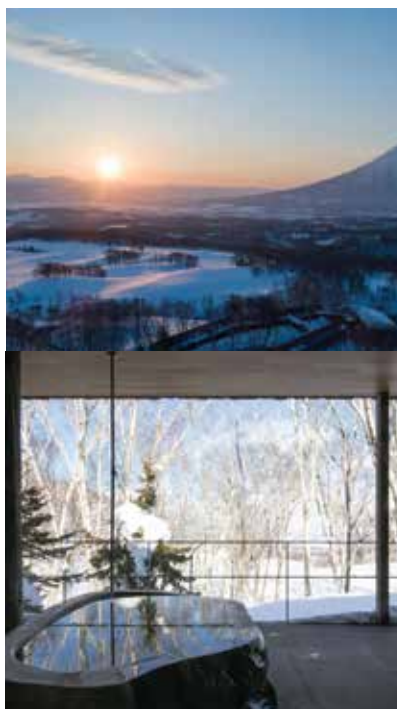
Kudadoo marries the warmth of Japanese design with eco-friendly architecture and the luxuries of a private island in the Maldives. A total of 15 expansive villas sprawl over the coral-rich ocean, each with its own infinity pool and neutral, breezy interiors with a conscious design. Making your stay even more bespoke is your round-the-clock butler who will readily assist you, be it arranging a beach dinner or dolphin expedition and anything short of illegal to make your island stay a memorable one. Both the one- and two-bed villas are supremely luxurious but for the ultimate privacy, go for the villa at the centre of the arc – that way nobody will even walk past your door. Sustainability is at the heart of Kudadoo – the resort is entirely self-sufficient for energy, thanks to the 984 solar panels on the roof. All 15 of the overwater villas are constructed from sustainably sourced wood and designed to exist in harmony with the surrounding ecosystem. Kudadoo also collaborates with local conservation projects to protect local wildlife and the Healing Ocean bath products in the villas are environmentally friendly, with no throwaway plastics anywhere on site.

Website: kudadoo.com



Zaborin Ryokan

📍 Niseko, Japan



Tucked away on Japan's northernmost island, Hokkaido, Zaborin is a heavenly respite with all of the discreet elegance the country is famous for. The Japanese minimalism is adopted in this hotel. Boasting only 15 cosy villas, each comes with an indoor and outdoor onsen onsen bath, filled with the purest volcanic water, it's intimate and secluded, surrounded by meadows and forests, and with some of Asia's finest ski slopes on your doorstep. For a true Japanese experience, the Washitsu room is the choice for its typical futons instead of Western poster-styled beds. Some villas come with an extra tatami-mat room and can sleep four. The other major dilemma is whether you want to look out to the Hanazono forest or the nearby meadow.

Website: zaborin.com