

# Travel

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'It is a fabulously futuristic hotel... it is sci-fi, it is sexy, it feels almost like a living thing'  
Lee Cobaj on Zaha Hadid's Morpheus hotel in Macau



A private pool at the Alila Villas, Cambodia 2

## The best new hotels for 2019

From a luxurious retreat in California's wine country to a beachside party palace in Ibiza, **Annabelle Thorpe** has the pick of next year's openings

**Long haul**  
**1 Arthaus Gemmayze Beirut, Lebanon**  
Few cities can match Beirut for its defiant, life-affirming energy, and this new hotel, opening in March, channels that vibrancy, with temporary art exhibitions, exotic gardens and classic palazzo style. The 19 discreetly luxurious bedrooms are spread across four interlinked houses, the rooftop terrace bar is perfect for sunset cocktails and dinner can be taken in the dining room, lounge, bar or garden.  
**Details** B&B doubles will cost from £208 a night (00 961 71 719 101, arthaus.international)

**2 Alila Villas Koh Russey, Cambodia**  
A collection of 63 simply styled yet indulgent villas and suites, Alila Villas offers absolute relaxation. Guests drift from the beachfront infinity pool to the spa for coconut-based treatments, and across to the beach shack for spicy Khmer seafood before sundowners in the bar. To mix things up, a shuttle boat runs trips to the mainland for temple tours, and the hotel can arrange island-hopping adventures. It will be fully open on January 1.  
**Details** B&B doubles cost from



£295 a night (00 855 81 222 915, allahotels.com/kohrussey)  
**3 Four Seasons Napa Valley, US**  
Vinophiles will find much to love when the Four Seasons opens in the heart of California's wine country in mid-2019. The 85 rooms are in earthy chocolate-and-cream tones, all with fireplaces and private terraces that overlook the five-acre vineyard. Families are welcome, with the All Seasons kids' club to keep younger ones happy, while couples can chill by the adults-only pool, or retreat to one of the two vineyard >

cabans, which offer spa treatments by day and private dining at night.  
**Details:** Room rates are yet to be set (00 800 6488 6488, fourseasons.com)

**4 Santarena**  
**Las Catalinas, Costa Rica**  
 Opening in February in the tropical town of Las Catalinas, Santarena, a 45-room boutique hotel, is sandwiched between lush rainforest on one side and a spectacular stretch of rugged coast on the other. Guests can choose between grazing on seafood and lazing in a hammock at the beachfront Limonada restaurant or exploring the surrounding landscapes on foot, horseback or bike. The rooftop lounge is perfect for sundowners, and the buzzy streets of Las Catalinas are a stroll away.  
**Details:** Room-only doubles will cost from £317 a night (00 506 2654 4600, santarenahotel.com)

**5 Baglioni Resort**  
**Maldives**  
 When the Baglioni opens in March it will be the first resort to serve up serious Italian glamour in the heart of the

Indian Ocean. On the unspoilt island of Maagau on the Dhhaalu atoll, a 40-minute seaplane ride from Malé, the hotel will welcome families with 96 villas, a kids' club for 3 to 12-year-olds, a specialist dive centre and water sports. The Garden Spa will offer Ayurvedic and Thai therapies, with three restaurants.  
**Details:** B&B doubles will cost from £845 a night (00 39 02 5665 1966, baglionihotel.com)

**6 Anantara**  
**Quy Nhon, Vietnam**  
 An all-villa resort opening in January, the Quy Nhon is on a quiet bay in the undiscovered south-central part of Vietnam. Carefully designed to blend into the surrounding environment, the 26 villas are designed in traditional Asian dark wood, with glass walls to make the most of the gorgeous ocean views. Food is a high point, with everything from street food to poolside barbecues and freshly caught seafood at the resort's signature restaurant.  
**Details:** B&B doubles will cost from £327 a night (00 84 256 3840 077, anantara.com)



white and chocolate furnishings, and windows that look straight out to the mountains. There are two restaurants, a state-of-the-art spa and kids' club.  
**Details:** B&B doubles cost from £312 a night (00 39 028 434 5670, kemassifcourmayeur.com)

**21 The Harper Norfolk**  
 A new 32-room boutique hotel in the village of Langham — about a mile from the Norfolk coast — the Harper is all about pared-down chic. Rooms have minimalist four-poster beds, oak floors and high-spec bathrooms, along with freshly mixed cocktails to kick things off. Guests can choose from hearty British dishes in Stanley's or a more fine-dining experience in the Slove. The spa offers yoga and Zumba classes, along with a pool, a sauna and a steam room, as well as a good range of treatments.  
**Details:** B&B doubles will cost from £210 a night (01328 859000, theharper.co.uk)

**22 The Pig at Bridge Place Kent**  
 Due to open in May, the Pig's Kentish outpost is the first of three slated openings in 2019 (the others, later in the year, are in Arundel, West Sussex, and Hartly Bay, Cornwall). The Kent Pig will be housed in the restored 16th-century manor house and gate lodge, a new Coach House and seven "hop-pickers' huts" in the grounds. Expect the familiar brand of locally sourced produce in the restaurant, housed in a restored barn.  
**Details:** Room-only doubles will cost from about £155 a night (0345 2259494, thepighotel.com)

**23 The Langley Buckinghamshire**  
 A repeat appearance for the Langley, which featured in last year's new hotel round-up, but proved to be another example of overly optimistic scheduling — a common occurrence in the competitive world of hotel openings. Now officially opening in February, this former royal hunting lodge will have 41 luxury rooms and suites, while the huge spa will have an indoor and outdoor pool, thermal area and five treatment rooms. The accent is on indulgence, with a cognac and cigar bar, signature restaurant and glorious Capability Brown-designed gardens — carefully restored — to stroll in.  
**Details:** Room rates are yet to be set (020 7236 3636, thelangley.com)

**24 Monkey Island Estate Berkshire**  
 The island hotel, seven miles from Windsor, has been welcoming guests since the 19th century, and is slated for a Valentine's Day reveal. The white clapboard pavilions were originally commissioned in 1723 as a fishing retreat and will now house 30 suites and rooms in country-house style, a chic brasserie that opens on to a waterfront terrace, and a gorgeous salon with 17th-century frescoes.  
**Details:** Room-only doubles will cost from £225 a night (01628 623400, www.monkeyislandestate.co.uk)

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**18 Ikos Aria Kos, Greece**  
 The Greek islands remain a favourite family choice, and this high-end all-inclusive resort on Kos, opening in May, will bring a new level of contemporary luxury to the island. It's a sizeable resort, with 370 rooms, all decked out in tasteful shades of stone and cream. There are kids' clubs catering from crèche age to teenagers, a football academy and activities from tennis to paddleboarding, all included. Seven restaurants, a long stretch of sandy beach and spa make it the ultimate fly and flop.  
**Details:** B&B doubles will cost from £226 a night (00 30 237 309 5300, ikos.com.gr)

**19 Grand Park Hotel Rovinj, Croatia**  
 Opening on April 1, this 209-room resort is a sister property to the nearby Hotel Lone, Croatia's first design hotel. The Grand Park shares its contemporary design ethos, with rooms in shades of caramel and taupe, a glass-walled lobby and lounge, and spa that opens on to a long, indoor-outdoor pool. The long waterfront terrace has double day-beds and views to the walled city of Rovinj and the Lungomare promenade below.  
**Details:** B&B doubles will cost from £220 a night (00 34 571 87 12 02, canbordoy.com)

**20 Le Massif Courmayeur, Italy**  
 Le Massif opened in the heart of Courmayeur this month, with a sister restaurant, La Loge du Massif, right by the slopes. The 80 rooms are mountain style by way of Milan: wood-panelled walls and floors with sleek grey,

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**7 Sonop Namibia**  
 A luxury camp at the southern end of the Namib desert, Sonop will welcome its first visitors in early summer, when guests will be able to settle into the ten antique-filled tents, all featuring four-poster beds and separate living areas. The camp is aiming for 1920s-style elegance. The infinity pool is a 21st-century touch.  
**Details:** Full-board doubles will cost from £495pp, including daily sunrise drive (zanielhotels.com)

**8 Alila Koggala Sri Lanka**  
 The first Alila property in Sri Lanka, Koggala opens in spring in the south of the island. There will be 40 suites and villas sharing two restaurants, a kids' club and spa, and an accent on local activities. The hotel is on the shores of Lake Koggala, with a beachfront pool.  
**Details:** Room rates are yet to be set (alilahotels.com)

**9 Singita Kwitonda Rwanda**  
 Singita, which has luxury lodges in South Africa, Tanzania and Zimbabwe, will open its first property in Rwanda in August. Kwitonda Lodge will be on 178 acres of land, on the edge of the Volcanoes National Park, home to one third of the world's mountain gorillas. The eight suites and one villa will stay true to Singita's signature mix of luxury and environmental awareness, with plunge pools and covered verandas with a fire pit, along with a restaurant and wine cellar, and a conservation hub.  
**Details:** One night's all-inclusive costs from £162pp (00 27 21 683 3424, rwanda.singita.com)



**10 TWA Hotel New York**  
 The TWA Hotel, partly housed in Eero Saarinen's landmark 1960s TWA Flight Centre at New York's JFK airport, is set to be one of the most iconic openings of the year. Two new wings will house 512 bedrooms, with views of JFK's runways, while the TWA Centre will offer six restaurants and eight bars, a swish spa and 10,000 sq ft roof-top observation deck with swimming pool.  
**Details:** Room-only doubles cost from £194 a night (00 1 212 806 9000, twahotel.com)

**Short haul**

**11 Callo los, Greece**  
 Tucked away behind Papas Beach, one of the most beautiful spots, Callo will bring a new level of luxury to los when it opens in June, with 30 suites set in a 1,000-acre estate. All will have private pools and hot tubs, and the accent is on barefoot luxury, with three restaurants, a library lounge and beachfront bar, spa and organic garden. There's a welcome focus on responsible tourism and activities are pleasingly low-key — open-air cinema, hiking trails and non-motorised water sports.  
**Details:** B&B doubles will cost from €600 a night (00 30 697 011 4922, callo.gr)

**12 Amare Beach Hotel Ibiza**  
 New luxury hotels have been springing up on Ibiza over the past couple of years, and the Amare will be the latest to join

the gang when it opens in late spring. Right on the waterfront on San Antonio Bay, the Amare is setting out its stall as the place to party; cocktails at the Belvue rooftop bar, poolside DJ sets, fashion shows and three restaurants. An adults-only hotel, it will have 366 rooms that ooze classic Ibiza style.  
**Details:** B&B doubles will cost from £125 (08000 843493, amarehotels.com)

**13 Nobu Hotel Barcelona**  
 The newest addition to the hugely successful Nobu chain of hotels will open in Barcelona in the summer, with 250 rooms. All the trademarks will be in place: sleek, unfussy rooms; a high-spec, elegant spa; and the eponymous restaurant on the 23rd floor. Unique to the hotel will be the use of "kintsugi" — traditional Japanese broken pottery, applied to the walls and ceiling, in tribute to the work of Antoni Gaudí, one of the Spanish city's most famous sons.  
**Details:** B&B doubles will cost from €309 (nobuhotels.com)

**14 One&Only Portonovi Montenegro**  
 The newest addition to Montenegro's growing portfolio of luxury hotels, the One&Only Portonovi will be the brand's first European hotel. Part of the new Portonovi marina development, the hotel will have about 140 rooms, an Espace Chenot Spa, kids'/teens' clubs and two separate beach clubs. The hotel will open its doors in time for the 2019 summer season. Its location makes it an ideal base for exploring Croatia and Montenegro.  
**Details:** Room rates are yet to be set (0800 1690530, oneandonlyresorts.com)

**15 Amerikalinjen Oslo**  
 In 1919 Norwegian America Line's grand headquarters opened its doors in the vibrant Jernbanetorget area of Oslo, and 100 years later, on March 15, it will re-emerge as a 122-room hotel. Rooms are a mix of art deco touches and Scandi design. Guests will be able to eat in Haven, a covered courtyard, or the Atlas brasserie, with drinks in elegant Pier 42.  
**Details:** B&B doubles will cost from €176 (0800 9179169, preferredhotels.com)

**16 Can Bordoy Palma, Mallorca**  
 The Mallorca capital isn't short of hotels, but this medieval building, with the largest private garden in Palma's Old Quarter, will offer an elegant alternative when it opens next month. The 24 suites feel a touch decadent, with velvet fabrics, grand beds and freestanding baths, and the hedonistic feel continues through the bar and communal areas. The garden is the real joy, as a space to swim, take a spa treatment or enjoy a romantic dinner.  
**Details:** B&B doubles will cost from €220 a night (00 34 571 87 12 02, canbordoy.com)

**17 JK Place Paris**  
 The French capital gets a hit of Italian va-va-voom in the spring when JK Place Paris, the brand's first venture outside Italy, opens its doors. The former European Consulate on the banks of the Seine will be reinvented as a 30-room boutique hotel, with Sisley Spa, indoor pool and restaurant. JK Place's trademark classic Italian decor will be refreshed with antique pieces and retro furniture.  
**Details:** Room rates are yet to be set (jkplaces.com)