



Condé Nast Traveller

MAY 2013 £3.99

**SPECIAL
ISSUE**

THE HOTLIST

OUR PICK OF THE BEST NEW HOTELS IN THE WORLD

THE INSIDE TRACK ON
EUROPE'S SECRET BEACHES

TUSCANY
MEXICO CITY
MALAYSIA
PUGLIA FOOD

EXCLUSIVE
THE HIGHS AND
LOWS OF THE BILLION-
DOLLAR POKER
KINGS OF CHINA

HIDDEN TURKEY

DON'T MISS
THE DEFINITIVE
GUIDE TO THE
MOST SPECIAL
PLACES TO STAY
IN VIETNAM

DISCOVER THE TINY BEACH VILLAGE WITH THE GROWING REPUTATION



THE HOT LIST 2013

OUR PICK OF
THE BEST NEW HOTELS
IN THE WORLD



FRANCE

HOTEL JULES & JIM, PARIS

On a street of 17th-century mansions and Chinese wholesalers, the lobby of this delightful new addition to the Marais doubles as a photo gallery. Named after Truffaut's metrosexual *ménage à trois*, it could equally be a set from his film *Day for Night*: the bar is in a converted silversmith's atelier and the charming old cobbled courtyard has a vertical garden and crackling log fire. The bedrooms are simple, verging on austere, but wonderful use has been made of materials, including the beautiful stone basins and dark walnut doors. If you want peace and quiet and a private house feel, choose a room in one of the buildings around the courtyard; for something less conventional, book one of the 13 HI-MACS rooms in the new building facing the street where the bed is cocooned in a creamy resin pod. There's no restaurant but the bar has a retro vibe, with Fifties-style sofas, ancient beams and an illuminated counter. At breakfast, it's crusty bread and delicious butter from Jean-Yves Bordier; in the evening, fine wines and whiskies, and a barman concocting made-to-measure cocktails. **FLASH POINT** A fabulously relaxed enclave surrounded by history but with bang-on technology. +33 1 44 54 13 13; www.hoteljulesetjim.com. Doubles from about £175

PERU

PALACIO NAZARENAS, CUSCO

The magnificent city of Cusco, buried deep in the Andes, has long been on every traveller's wish list, but the new Palacio Nazarenas makes this year a great time to go. The new Orient-Express dazzles with its details: his and hers shoetrees, revitalising drinks (Cacao & Maca, 'a magnesium and Vitamin C kick') delivered daily to your room, and the ingredients lined up in your bar for a butler to mix a fine Pisco Sour. The big, oxygen-enriched suites are done out in natural colours overlaid with heavy silver artefacts, embroidered linens and fragrant, fresh white flowers. Views are of the cobbled courtyards of this 18th-century former convent, or the hotel's swimming pool (Cusco's first outdoor). The spa offers massages with aromatic local herbs in treatment rooms where ancient Inca ruins lie floodlit beneath you. The food is a big draw: acclaimed chef Virgilio Martinez makes the most of the surrounding mountains and valleys to deliver lean, uncluttered dishes of wood-grilled, leaf-wrapped corn, white-trout *tiradito*, black quinoa, and a fish *ceviche* with a tree-tomato sauce that's as sensational as the hotel itself. **FLASH POINT** Cusco's first real five-star retreat is a destination in itself, far more than a stopping-off place on the Inca trail. +511 610 8300; www.palacionazarenas.com. Doubles from about £420



TURKEY

MARTI ISTANBUL HOTEL

This place is a very cool, modern take on the glory days of the Ottoman Empire. The 270 bedrooms have iPod docks and turbaned bedheads, high-speed internet access and gilded corsets, damask wall panels and velvet throws; the 31 suites have Turkish steam baths with heated marble seats. The menu in Quad Restaurant & Bar on the mezzanine floor is a fusion of Asian fast food and Middle Eastern staples, as if Ottolenghi had taken over Wagamama. So a first course of grilled aubergines, tomatoes and courgettes spiked with coriander and lemon could be followed by skewered chicken tikka, and then a Vacherin cheese ripened to perfection. Downstairs in the atrium, order an amazing seafood linguine at Brass brasserie – an oasis of calm just off the bustle and surge of Taksim Square, Istanbul's commercial and cultural centre. Three city must-haves are a view of the Bosphorus, proximity to 800 years of Byzantine history, and a hotel where, as a time traveller, you can return to the comforts, cuisine and communications of the 21st century. The Marti ticks all those boxes. **FLASH POINT** Location is everything in Istanbul, and you couldn't be better placed than at the Marti. +90 212 987 4000; www.martiistanbulhotel.com. Doubles from about £130

