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hotel hot list

THE CHIC RETREATS LIGHTING UP OUR DESIGN RADAR

Kalesma, Mykonos, Greece

Catching a few rays of soft Greek sun sounds like a balm from the gods right about now, and we think we've found the perfect new spot to soak them up. Whether you're seeking a glamorous party vacation or a simple Cycladic escape, Mykonos is always a good idea and its newest hotel, Kalesma, wraps up classic Grecian style in a truly contemporary wrapper. The spacious suites are all flowing ivory linen and clean modern lines and, best of all, they come with private heated pools. Down at Pere Ubu, the hotel's Mediterranean restaurant, diners munch on freshly baked

bread and local oysters, and once a week the hotel hosts intimate communal suppers for its residential guests.

IN THE KNOW

Eat as much as you can, the food on the island is fantastic. Our favourite restaurants include cliffside Spilia and the Paola Navone-designed Interni.

Ask the concierge about chartering a yacht for the afternoon to cruise around the coastal caves – it's the ultimate indulgence.

Book it Suites from around £1,040 a night, kalesmamikonos.com



White Water, Cambria, California

This little outpost of sunny seaside style may once have been a regular roadside motel, but forget the preconceptions that come with that and get ready for a dose of California cool. Designed by Nina Freudenberg, who has managed to blend interesting high design with a simple, casual vibe, White Water is a fabulous but affordable alternative to some of the Golden State's more expensive coastal route hotels, such as Post Ranch Inn (which we featured last month). We're particularly fond of the effortlessly chic lobby, with its oversized mid-century sofas, beachy vibe and dazzling ocean views. Nestled halfway between Los Angeles and San Francisco, this is the ideal road trip break spot, a place to put the roof of your convertible back up.

IN THE KNOW

Explore Cambria's many outdoor offerings, from sandy surf beaches to exhilarating bicycle trails and hiking paths.

Plan a day exploring the hotel's many local wineries, including Booker, Daou and Tablas Creek.

Book it Rooms from around £240 a night, whitewatercambria.com

