

HIGH LIFE

January/February 2022 SINGAPORE SUPPERS, QATARI CULTURE, SWITCHING OFF, SWOTTING UP, PLUS PARIS FOR PARAMOURS

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2022

SAN FRANCISCO MYKONOS SÃO PAULO SHANGHAI OSLO VENICE BANGKOK DUBAI CORFU NASHVILLE ISTANBUL NEW YORK IBIZA COSTA RICA CYPRUS



New year, new view

The most impressive 22 hotels on the horizon for 2022



Jetting off

THE

HOTTEST
HOTEL
OPENINGS
OF
2022

*From cliff-clinging villas to a 100m vertical garden, we bring you the shiniest new, delayed and much anticipated hotel openings in what is shaping up to be a bumper year for hospitality and luxury travel. **Hannah Ralph** checks in on the spaces set to stun*

Cali Mykonos

With a name inspired by mythological muse Calliope, Cali Mykonos pinches her famed beauty, eloquence and penchant for poetry, too. Opening this June, its interiors have all the flow and precision of blank verse, achieved by that classic Cycladic combination of sharp, clean lines and light, local marbles. A draw for peace-seekers, the (un)real estate surrounding its 40 sugar-cube villas also happens to be some of the island's most rugged and low-key. Plus, you'll be hard pressed to spot a ripple in the infinity pool, thanks to nearby mountains blocking out those infamous Mykonos winds. Pool not your vibe?

There's always the private beach...

calimykonos.com

Rosewood São Paulo Brazil

This is not just a hotel. This is a Rosewood hotel, and the brand's first crack at South America. Just one piece of a wider jigsaw to revive and greenify the Cidade Matarazzo heritage site, several hospitality heavyweights have put their back into this one, not least world-renowned designer Philippe Starck (responsible for the interiors) and famed architect Jean Nouvel (who came up with the hotel's 100m-tall vertical garden structure). The luxury development will preside over a permanent collection of 400 exclusive artworks by Brazilian creators, show off two restaurants (one overlooking the hotel garden), and adopt the site's crumbling chapel, so you can leave São Paulo hitched.
rosewoodhotels.com

→| The Westbund Hotel Shanghai

Rocco Forte's Asia debut is finally about to do just that – and no one's more pleased than the dynasty's director of design, Olga Polizzi. Sister of the big boss, Sir Rocco, Polizzi's trademark style can be seen all over, yielding the group's signature Anglo-Italian vibe – just a little – to China's taste for Chinoiserie, calligraphy and ceramics. Following in the footsteps of Rome and Berlin before it, the Shanghai property will give guests a ritzy rooftop bar (right) in which to soak up Xuhui's glistening riverside skyline, but we're most excited by the plummy tearoom, modelled on the group's own London townhouse, Brown's.
roccofortehotels.com



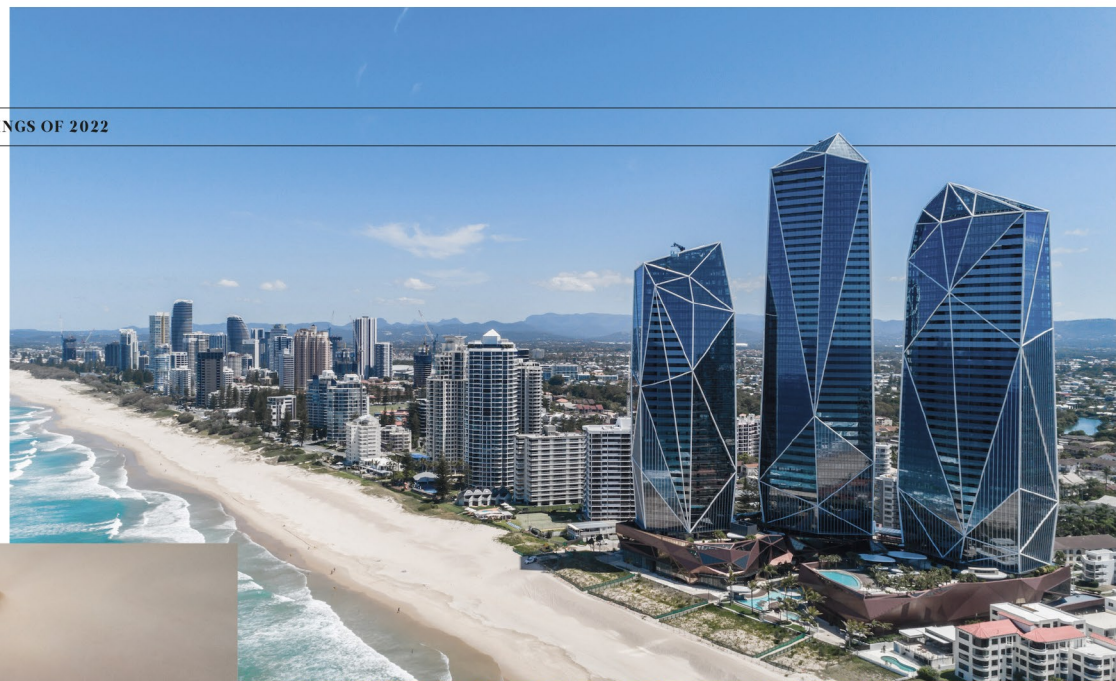
←| Tranquility Beach Resort Dominica

Picture a jaw-dropping location on the edge of Dominica's craggy west coast, overlooking nothing but endless Caribbean Sea. This bluff-bound resort – which has been posting video updates on its construction like an elaborate episode of *Grand Designs* since early 2019 – is a grassroots project with ambition, plus an architectural ace up its sleeve. Yes, we're talking about the cliff-hanging villas, three-sided glass structures built directly into the rock, looking precariously phenomenal and ready to be booked up forever. Set to open early this year, more villas and rooms sprawl inland with a tiered infinity pool at their heart.
tranquilitybeachdominica.com



↓| The Standard Bangkok Mahanakhon

When The Standard joined the Maldives crowd back in 2019 (having previously resided in New York, LA, Miami and London), we should have known that the brand had its eyes pointing firmly east. And so it arrives in Thailand, where a new property in the country's tallest tower is gearing up to welcome The Standard's fashion-forward fans by the summer. A triumph of pixelated architecture, the King Power Mahanakhon skyscraper continues what the London outpost started: nabbing cultural kudos from its building long before any guests hit the scene. But what a treat these guests are in for, with a cloud-high rooftop restaurant, an *Alice In Wonderland*-style tea parlour, and The Standard's trademark, subtly retro interiors. Not to be confused with The Standard, Hua Hin, a pear drop-pink beach resort that opened on the Thai coast in December and has its own charms.
standardhotels.com



◀| **The Langham Gold Coast Australia**

When you think of a surfer's hangout, The Langham doesn't exactly spring to mind. But that's exactly what's happening down under as the luxury brand dips its toes in the sporty waters of Surfers Paradise (a real town name, because, of course, it is) on the Gold Coast this spring. Suites will offer 180° views of the Pacific, while dining looks like a mix of Asian-influence restaurants – mirroring The Langham's Michelin-starred success stories in Shanghai and Hong Kong – and more casual grab-and-go outlets. If you're hoping the brand's signature afternoon tea, a tradition made famous at the London flagship back in 1865, has made it to the beach, you're in luck. langhamhotels.com



⬆| **Sommerro Oslo**

Just as Nobis did for Copenhagen, Sommerro is about to do for Oslo: elevating an edgy Scandi-city to one of the coolest capitals in the northern hemisphere. After all, where one ludicrously well-designed boutique goes, more inevitably follow. Housed in the historic headquarters of the city's original electrical company, some spaces date back to 1870 while the whole place – particularly those Art Deco-inspired suites – emanate a 1930s *je ne sais quoi*. Come September, you'll lounge in its rooftop pool (Oslo's first), wander Frogner (the neighbourhood is popular with expats, drawn in by bougie design shops and some of the city's best-reviewed restaurants), and get down to the business in the woody, Wi-Fied meeting rooms. sommerrohouse.com



⬇| **Nolinski Venezia Venice**

At the time of writing, we don't know much more about this new Nolinski venture than its postcode, but you'd be surprised what can be gleaned from one address. Venice's hottest new property is in one of its most quintessentially Italian streets. Dolce & Gabbana, Gucci and Chanel are neighbours, while the ornate Chiesa di San Moisè church is the pot of gold at the end of this honey-hued tunnel. We can also tell you it's two minutes to St Mark's Square, and even less to the nearest *Servizio Gondole*, so you can hitch a ride. As far as interiors go, we're promised dark, rich woods, dusty pinks and ruby reds – the same velvety sumptuousness of Nolinski Paris but with the warmth dialled all the way up. nolinskivenezia.com



◀| **Como Le Montrachet France**

Como Hotels & Resorts locations have always been a bit 'beauty and the beach', but now the group is easing up on the latter and dialling up the Disney with its purchase of a fairy-tale French estate so enchanting that Belle might as well be pottering about with books in hand. While charm is high on the menu, this is Burgundy, which means one thing: wine. Puligny-Montrachet, the quaint village Como calls home, is surrounded by world-famous vineyards and some of the greatest dry white wines you'll ever sip. In the middle of it all, the 18th-century hotel (opening in 'phrases' throughout 2022) will provide a gateway to the best producers while setting itself up as a gastronomic epicentre, starring 31 rooms and suites spread across four heritage buildings to stumble back to. Scrummy. comohotels.com

Amanti, MadeForTwo Hotels Ayia Napa

Think all the perks of a lively Ayia Napa beach break, but with an elegant spin. That's what's in store at the soon-to-arrive five-star, Amanti, which is gearing up to join Cyprus' lovable party coast in time for the summer season. The intended vibe is stress-free, adults-only decadence: a 'sunbed allocation system' is in the works to eliminate those early morning lounge wars, as is a poolside waiter service that's managed at the touch of a button. Beyond the outdoor infinity pool is a world of on-site beauty salons, garden-view spas, meditation and yoga classes and unruffled relaxation. And what with live music nights, nearby night life and cocktail bars, you might need to pamper your way out of a hangover come morning. ba.com/amanti



1 Hotel Nashville

There's a reason 1 Hotels describes its newcomers as 'sprouting' – these sustainable sanctuaries are designed in unison with nature so as to leave a positive impact on their environment. At the rate 1 Hotels is growing, it's a good job, too. The portfolio is made up of responsible urban retreats, which means community and charity partnerships, recycled materials, plastic reduction, rainwater reclamation, low-energy everything, smart heating, farm-to-table grub, electric vehicles, native greenery and, actually, quite a lot more. So, while you might want to visit Nashville to indulge in strong liquor and crispy fried chicken, you can rest assured that your hotel is a totally guilt-free experience. 1hotels.com



Mandarin Oriental Mayfair London

Though several doors will swing open in the capital this year (The Twenty Two, Hotel Amano and Broadwick Soho to name a few), MO's second London address is the news. Opening soon, this latest venture is not far from the Hyde Park original, but proposes something a little different, with 80 private residences outnumbering the 50 guest rooms. And it's Mandarin Oriental, so whether you live in one of those top-floor apartments or are just blowing through, you can expect top-class food and spa facilities for days. mandarinoriental.com



Dreams Corfu Resort & Spa

Talk about a transformation. Previously a dated four-star property riding the coattails of a fantastic location, this family-friendly resort has a new owner, a new name and a dramatic new look. Unveiling its glow-up this spring, sneak peeks show off a hotel that's all slatted woods, warm neutrals and pops of fauna. There's a shiny new all-inclusive package – the 'Unlimited-Luxury' experience – and Explorer's Club for the tykes which, alongside three outdoor pools, make it a dead cert for non-whingy family holidays. Gouviá village is nearby but, when it comes to food, this is one resort you don't need to leave. Oceana looks like a winner: a seafood specialist serving up gorgeous bay views below. Dreamy, indeed. ba.com/dreamscorfu

|→| **Hotel Barrière Le Fouquet** *New York*

The Champs-Élysées' most famous hotel is heading Stateside, as hospitality giant Barrière takes a chomp out of the US market at an all-new and very trendy Tribeca address. Set to undergo its French makeover in time for the summer, this Hotel Barrière Le Fouquet won't just be importing European flair, but its very own outpost of the Paris flagship's famous Fouquet's brasserie, no doubt on a mission to welcome the New York elite. The red-brick exteriors house 96 rooms and suites spread over eight floors, along with a spa (guests only), swimming pool, indoor courtyard and a screening room rumoured to be the largest in Lower Manhattan.

hotelsbarriere.com



|↓| **Homestead** *South Africa*

Big Five spotting on the regular and malaria-free, Nambiti Private Game Reserve (just 2.5 hours by car from Durban) is fast becoming the safari capital of South Africa, and Homestead, opening early this year, is about to be its finest new eco-lodge. The 12 lodges aren't just for couples, either – solo travellers and families are encouraged, with a few lodges able to interconnect to welcome all the gang. As for honeymooners – those individual infinity pools, glass-to-ceiling walls directly overlooking the watering hole and roaring open fires make the whole place wildly romantic. Solar energy is set to run the show, while experiences extend beyond your classic safari to anti-poaching workshops, wildlife photography sessions and more.

homesteadlodge.com

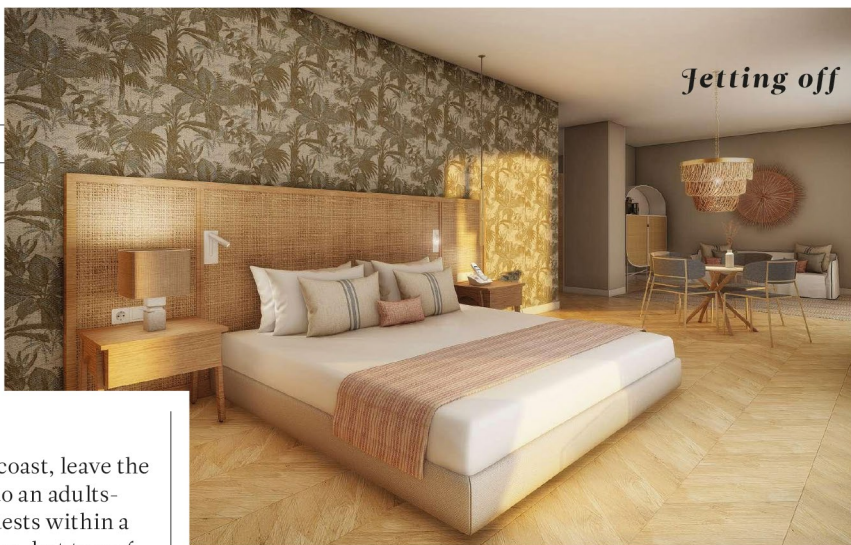


|↑| **The Peninsula Istanbul**

Peninsula fans are a devoted bunch, so we expect this hotel will feel the rush when it opens toward the tail end of this year (same goes for a new Peninsula in London.) It's easy to understand why the regulars come back, since the luxury is gloriously old school (bellboys aren't going anywhere soon), but they'll notice this new spot is all about getting guests out of the hotel and into the Galataport: a new development on the banks of the Bosphorus of which the hotel is but one star. Museums, art galleries, manicured promenade, hot dining scene and more: give it a year, this will be *the* place to be seen in Istanbul.

peninsula.com





|→| **TRS Ibiza Hotel**

Over on Ibiza's wild west coast, leave the kids behind and check into an adults-only paradise that puts guests within a five-minute walk of not one, but two of the island's most stunning coves. Beauty spots Cala Gració and Cala Gracioneta may be popular, but they are nowhere close to losing their earthy, bohemian spirit – something the new TRS hopes to encapsulate, too. Accepting bookings from May 2022, the property ticks such indulgent boxes as swim-up suites, a premium spa, butler service and plenty more. Plus, you can wield your all-inclusive package at three à la carte restaurants, head up to Gravity sky lounge for sunset sundowners and enjoy the pools – the nicest of the bunch is a sultry little number hiding in the spa.

ba.com/trsibiza

|↓| **Habitas Santa Teresa Costa Rica**

If there's one hotel group to keep an eye on in the next few years, it's Habitas. Specialist in large-scale 3D printing, it cares about low-carbon construction and is happily paving the way for copycats. The sustainability may be trailblazing, but the brand's wellness chops don't lag too far behind. Across the four 'homes' already carefully placed around Mexico, Africa and Saudi Arabia, menus are nutritionist approved and there's a big emphasis on rituals, including welcome ceremonies to set intentions for your stay. It helps that Habitas sure knows how to pick a spot: all the current homes are designed in cahoots with its sublime environments, and this ready-to-open, jungle-meets-beach bolthole in Santa Teresa will be no exception.

ourhabitas.com



|↗| **SO/ Paris**

Saying *bienvenue* in April, this 162-room hotspot is sticking tight to SO/'s mantra of five-star service meets *joie de vivre*, which is perfect, since this latest outpost is springing up in none other than the French capital itself. Already promising to “break up with cliché” (although we wouldn't be mad if it didn't), the new SO/ will sit ten storeys high on the banks of the Seine, wedged perfectly between the Île Saint-Louis (one of two natural islands on the river) and the historic Marais neighbourhood, home to Place des Vosges, the city's oldest square. In keeping with Paris' Belle Époque aesthetic, the restaurant will recreate a modern-traditional bistro, while a panoramic rooftop bar will stump up 360° views (hello, Eiffel Tower) across the top two floors. Art fiends will be delighted to find an exclusive work from Icelandic-Danish artist Olafur Eliasson, the man who once brought life-sized icebergs to the Panthéon in an installation challenging climate change. Cool.

all.accor.com

|↑| **The Dorchester Dubai**

Not only is Dorchester Collection adding to its legacy property portfolio (London's The Dorchester began welcoming guests in 1931, Paris's Hôtel Plaza Athénée in 1936), but it's building its uber-modern tenth hotel completely from scratch.

On the plus side, this means it has been able to get the best folk in on the job – hospitality's favourite architect Foster + Partners is responsible for the interconnecting towers, while Parisian duo Gilles & Boissier is on interiors *and* bespoke furniture duty. As far the curious tower design goes, this a tale of two halves: on the one hand, 32 storeys of luxe permo-apartments (pictured) for those who can afford the view (it's a real 'Where's Wally' of Emirati landmarks up there) and, in the next tower, the hotel. Patience is required: this one's not due to land until after summer.

dorchestercollection.com





←| **The Line** *San Francisco*

If you're plotting a summer of love on the West Coast, no road trip is complete without a few days in hip San Francisco. And if you're going to base yourself anywhere, SoMA – with its museums, micro-neighbourhoods and killer grub – is the way to go. It's good news, then, that a jazzy new The Line hotel (the brand already has properties in L.A, Austin and DC) is coming to town early this year. One of the only hotels slated to open in SF in 2022, you *might* be forgiven for thinking you're in The Big Apple, since its architect Bjarke Ingels took inspiration from New York's famed Flatiron Building. Inside, meanwhile, you can soak up the coastal city from the landscaped rooftop solarium, find your perfect tome at the hotel library, and head to its 2,000sqft theatre for a show come evening. It's also going to be across the street from SF's first ever IKEA, if that floats your boat.

thelinehotel.com

↓| **Hoshino Resorts KAI** *Poroto, Hokkaido*

Wild birds in the surrounding forest, a rare hot spring at its feet: KAI Poroto has to be the year's most peaceful opening. It's also baby-new as of this January – meaning that by the time you can get to Japan, the place will be waiting to greet you with a roaring fire in the lobby, lake views from every window and two authentic Ainu bathhouses (the Ainu are native to Hokkaido and take bathing *very* seriously). Speaking of, every decorous detail pays homage to the Ainu: the 42 rooms feature centrepiece square tables in a nod to their traditional square fireplaces, while local motifs paint the walls and cushions. In the private dining room, delicacies arrive on boat-shaped plates inspired by their trade. Nor is their belief in the healing properties of hot spring water to be dismissed – in the spirit of *kintsugi*, the Japanese art of repairing broken pottery pieces with gold, prepare to be feel whole again.

hoshinoresorts.com

