

BEST FOR: DECADENCE ON TAP

THE PORTOBELLO HOTEL LONDON

Gold lettering on the door discreetly announces The Portobello, set in two neoclassical houses on a quiet Notting Hill street. A hotel icon in the 1970s, it later cemented itself as a sexy getaway when Kate Moss and Johnny Depp supposedly bathed in Champagne here. Now part of A Curious Group of Hotels, the décor has had a much-needed refresh, but without losing its rough-

around-the-edges charm. **Staying in** Each of the 21 rooms is unique, with ornate wooden furniture, antique curios and vintage teacups. The statement baths add to the decadent, Alice in Wonderland vibe. We'd recommend bathing à deux with a glass of bubbles (we can't all afford to fill the tub with it). **Going out** Portobello Market is a haven for antique lovers. **Book it** From £175* a night. curioushotels.com

HILTON SHILLIM RETREAT & ESTATE SPA PUNE

Opened a year ago, Shillim, a few hours' drive from Mumbai, has so far been something of a best-kept-secret from the international market. No wonder India wants to keep it to itself. Peak season for locals is monsoon time (May/June) when urbanites come for the myriad waterfalls that spring from the surrounding mountains. The rest of the year, Shillim is bathed in

sunshine. There are 60 villas with pools in 350 acres of lush wilderness. **Staying in** The simple, stylish villas would be at home in Palm Springs. **Going out** As well as two destination restaurants, bars and meditation cave, there's the Western Ghats and sites of historic interest. **Book it** Greaves creates tailor-made tours to India and can offer a seven-night itinerary to Mumbai and Shillim from £1,699**pp. greavesindia.co.uk

BEST FOR: RECHARGING



STAY

HOTELS OF THE MONTH

On our radar: a Turkish delight on the Aegean waterfront, a discreet London hideaway and a charming find in the Portuguese countryside...



BEST FOR: UNIQUE SPA TREATS

MANDARIN ORIENTAL BODRUM

The first Mandarin Oriental resort in Europe has arrived and is nestled in the Turkish landscape like it has been there forever. It may be huge but with only 86 rooms and 23 apartments it is never going to feel overcrowded. **Staying in** The spa on three levels is a destination in its own right with spa garden, foot ritual area and hamman therapists who know exactly what they're doing. The kung fu master

offers one-on-one retreats with qi gong and a tea ceremony. And there's a cake shop if you want to rebel against all that wellbeing. **Going out** Ten restaurants and bars serve up exquisite dishes and views – the ever-changing blue Aegean Sea is with you at every turn – plus there are two beaches and a yacht to charter, so there's no need to leave. **Book it** From £428 a night. mandarinoriental.com/bodrum. Or visit ba.com for holiday packages.

BEST FOR: COUNTRY CHIC

FAZENDA NOVA ALGARVE

The Eastern Algarve is surprisingly unspoilt – see it while you still can. Fazenda Nova is just 25 minutes from Faro airport but a million miles away from the charter-holiday crowds. Tim and Hallie Robinson (daughter of Nick Logan, founder of *The Face* magazine) have created a retreat in the countryside. They've kept the rural charm of the 19th-century house while transforming it into a

super-chic boutique bolt hole. **Staying in** The ten suites are fitted out to exacting design standards – polished concrete floors, Balinese teak beds and quirky flea-market finds. **Going out** The historic town of Tavira which has an impressive Roman bridge is 15 minutes away, while the fishing port of Olhão is just a ten-minute drive. Or take a boat to Armona for a desert-island experience. **Book it** From £125*** a night. fazendanova.eu



To read a full review of these hotels and many others from New York to the New Forest, visit highlife.ba.com/hotels

Words: Caroline Egan, Iarthe Butt, Harriet Green. Photographs: courtesy of The Portobello Hotel and Hilton Hotels & Resorts; Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group; Ed Reeve
*Based on double occupancy in a Good Room. **Based on two sharing. ***Based on two sharing.