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**THE TRANSATLANTIC ISSUE**

## 4 LUXURY CITY BREAKS



**25hours Hotel Bikini, Berlin** Play "count the exotic animals" while swinging from one of the many hammocks, dining in the rooftop restaurant or ensconced in a window seat at this quirky, millennially-minded hotel overlooking Berlin Zoo. Interiors are as plant-festooned as they are eclectic - guest rooms come in two themes, "Urban" and "Jungle" - and there's an in-house bakery, plus bikes to borrow. Rooms from €170. [25hours-hotels.com](http://25hours-hotels.com)



**Almanac, Barcelona** The first in a new chain of boutique boltholes, Almanac Barcelona made a grand entrance to the city's luxury hotel scene when it opened its doors in late 2017. From contemporary design and swirling staircases to rooftop bars and treatment rooms, it guarantees a memorable experience from start to finish - the hotel even has a signature scent created for it by master perfumer Jimmy Boyd. Rooms from €400. [almanachotels.com](http://almanachotels.com)



**The Marylebone, London** Bright colours, delicious food and a trendy neighbourhood are all part of the charm of The Marylebone. Vibrant soft furnishings sourced from local designers showcase the best of British across its 244 bedrooms and its 108 Brasserie spills out on to the street, making for ample people-watching opportunities during the summer months. Amazing rooftop terrace suites too. Rooms from £168. [doylecollection.com](http://doylecollection.com)



**DO & CO Hotel, Vienna** Designed as a futuristic shopping mall by Hans Hollein in the 1980s, the Haas Haus building's curved windows overlooking St Stephen's Gothic cathedral work equally well in the swish Onyx Bar on the sixth floor. This 43-room five-star has an enviable central location for those seeking in-the-thick-of-it sightseeing, while its high-spec - and high-tech - interiors marry teak, stone, marble and glass. Rooms from €266. [designhotels.com](http://designhotels.com)



RUTH MEDIBER

### MUSIC

## FAST AND FUREY

Following the release of his latest album *Don't Stop This Now*, Irish folk legend - not forgetting actor, composer and uilleann pipe extraordinaire - Finbar Furey will, on April 2, kick-start the UK leg of his tour (in Liverpool's St George's Hall), which book-ends a flurry of dates on home turf, including Cork, Dublin, Galway and Killarney, and keeps him on the road until July 7. Known for songs that speak of his native Ireland, these live dates are sure to soothe the Irish diaspora in Britain. [finbarfurey.com](http://finbarfurey.com)

### OPERA **THE PERFECT FOILS**

Spring welcomes **Irish National Opera's** new programme starting with *The Marriage of Figaro* (April 13 at Wexford's National Opera House; April 17-18, 20-21, Dublin's Gaiety; [irishnationalopera.ie](http://irishnationalopera.ie)). Mezzo-soprano Tara Erraught plays the wilful Susanna in a 250-year-old yarn that pits servants against their masters. New beginnings are also signalled at the **Blackwater Valley Opera Festival**, right - formerly Lismore Opera Festival - in Co Waterford, which sees recitals, talks and Rossini's jovial *L'Italiana in Algeri* presented at Lismore Castle (May 29 to June 3; [blackwatervalleyoperafestival.com](http://blackwatervalleyoperafestival.com)).

