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WHERE TO STAY  
THE WORLD'S BEST NEW HOTELS TO SLEEP, EAT AND TAKE PICTURES AT

# HOT LIST 2018

Our pick of the best new hotels to have opened in the past year



#### DIMORA DELLE BALZE, ITALY

This former masseria just north of the Sicilian town of Noto has been lovingly and painstakingly restored: plaster stripped away to reveal original stone arches, roof tiles cleaned and refixed, unfringed doors rescued and rehung. There are only 12 bedrooms, along with large communal spaces with cool stone floors and vaulted ceilings painted duck-egg blue, dusty pink and soft green. The rooms are named after Sicilian artists and their works (Probito, Eva, Poesie). You'll find a mix of contemporary Italian design pieces, vintage finds and ceramics and custom-made cementine tiles from Morocco. The terraces are the setting for long breakfasts and summer suppers (seafood salad followed by linguine with courgettes from the hotel's organic garden, shrimp and pistachios). And after a swim in the saltwater pool, you can retreat to the Limonaia, a lovely bar area in a scented Mediterranean garden.

**TIP:** The small town of Palazzolo Acreide, a 15-minute drive away, is a baroque gem with its own little Greek amphitheatre. ([dimoradedellebalze.com](http://dimoradedellebalze.com))

Above from left: a bathroom at Dimora delle Balze, Italy; the entrance of Bracco Mykonos, Greece

**SANDERS, DENMARK** There are plenty of tiny details at Copenhagen's most enchanting new hotel that lend it charm and character: the handcrafted wood panelling in the lift; classic brass knobs on the radiators; cocktails in glasses shaped like tulips rather than the dull old coupe; Bakelite light switches that give a satisfying clunk. And when it comes to the big picture, owner Alexander Kølpin has taken all he learned from his family's hotels in the countryside, plus the years spent travelling as one of Denmark's leading ballet dancers, and created a property that truly raises the bar. The hotel combines Danish mid-century modern and colonial British (wickerwork here and there, palms in pots), while the Sanders Kitchen, with its seasonal menu, white-tiled walls and white marble tables, has the feel of a French bistro. Outside, on a quiet street that's just a short walk from lively Nyhavn, you can borrow a bicycle to go exploring. **TIP:** The new fifth-floor conservatory offers lovely views of the city by evening, and is also a cheery breakfast spot. ([hotelsanders.com](http://hotelsanders.com))

#### WANÅS, SWEDEN

Set in the Swedish countryside in Skåne, this stay is all about the countryside. So there's a mud-room stocked with wellingtons and raincoats, so no matter what the weather guests can explore the astonishing art in the woodlands surrounding the hotel and restaurant – Yoko Ono's apple orchard, for instance, or the haunting Antony Gormley figure standing sentry in the middle of a path. The 11 bedrooms are in a former cowshed with a separate dining room carved out of another outbuilding. Bedrooms are smart Scandi: wooden floors, minimal furnishing, but no skimping on comfort with great beds, deep tubs, and LA Bruket soaps scented with sage, lavender and rosemary. The food is exceptionally good modern Swedish fare, with many of the ingredients grown on the estate's vast organic farm. **TIP:** Brunch is something special here, with outstanding pancakes served the traditional way, with whipped cream and jam, as well as meatballs and fritattas topped with onion cream. ([wanas.se](http://wanas.se))