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AUGUST 2022

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FEEL GOOD YOU
Agosto 2022

6 of the best DREAMY ITALIAN HOTELS

Hikes through olive groves, swims in lakes, enjoy evenings sipping wine — Italy is a feel-good destination, as these extra-special stays show

FOR BEAUTIFUL SCENERY

Hotel Santa Caterina, Amalfi

Few landscapes are as iconic as Amalfi — pastel villages, terraced lemon groves and sun-warmed sea. Nestled into the cliffs, this family-run, art-deco hotel has one of the most enviable locations on the coast, enticing the rich and famous, and holidaymakers granting themselves a treat, to enter its doors. Rooms are airy, light and distinctly Italian, but it's the undisturbed views from your balcony of the sea or their botanic garden that are unique. Service is attentive and charming, so a long lunch at beachside restaurant Al Mare is unforgettable. A glass-fronted lift gives you access to the seafront. You're also just a 15-minute walk from the historic town of Amalfi. Visit the cathedral and shops selling lemon-scented soaps, sweets and pasta.

Book it: Doubles from €467, B&B; hotelsantacaterina.it. Or try Citalis (citalis.com) for packages with flights.

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FOR RELAXATION IN THE SUN

Masseria Torre Coccaro, Puglia

Drenched in sunshine and lapped by sparkling waves, coastal Puglia is already an idyllic getaway. It gets even better when you check into Masseria Torre Coccaro, a resort with a perfect beach for relaxation. It's impossible to feel stressed here, even if you're swapping an afternoon on the sand for one of the many on-site activities,

whether that's beach volleyball or pizza-making. Come evening, gather around the 1,000-year-old olive tree, in the heart of the resort, for a 'village feast' with live music.

Book it: Doubles from £259, room only; masseria.torreccoccaro.com. Or try Expressions Holidays (expressionsholidays.co.uk) for packages with flights.



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FOR A SERENE CITY STAY

Ca' di Dio, Venice

Looking out across the Venetian lagoon, Ca' di Dio sits on one of the world's most desirable stretches of water. Nearby is St Mark's Square and bridge-topped canals busy with gondolas. The hotel's building dates back centuries. Marbled floors, frescoes and courtyard gardens have been preserved, yet transformed. Venetian glass adorns the hotel and you can see master glass blowers at work on Murano island. Back at the hotel, take in iconic views while dining in Vero Restaurant.

Book it: Doubles from €391, B&B; vretreats.com/en/ca-di-dio. Or try Scott Dunn (scottdunn.com) for packages with flights.



FOR SUSTAINABILITY

Borgo Pignano, Tuscany

If being green is high on your wish list, consider this magical 750-acre organic estate. Its 18th-century buildings have been beautifully restored, using environmentally friendly products and materials. Luxurious rooms are all styled differently, each with bath products made with ingredients from the estate, and menus feature ingredients grown and reared on site. You can book activities, such as organic soap-making or a cookery class using estate produce. The walking trails and e-bikes to hire are great, but the highlight is an infinity pool carved out of a limestone quarry. Don't miss an early-morning dip as the sun rises over the Tuscan hills.

Book it: Doubles from £300, B&B; borgopignano.com. Or try Black Tomato (blacktomato.com) for packages with flights.

FOR WATERSIDE ACTIVITIES

La Locanda del Bonaco, Lake Garda

In Italy's Lake District, blue waters glitter, mountains soar, and the air is fresh: perfect for active pursuits. At La Locanda del Bonaco, you'll get waterside views from your window, but also sleek, modern design. With crisp whites and creams, and walls displaying one-of-a-kind frescoes, bedrooms are a refreshing contrast to the area's more traditional hotels. Spend your days hiking local Monte Stivo or paddling on the lake waters.

Book it: Doubles from £102, B&B, locandadelbonaco.com



FOR A FABULOUS SPA

COMO Castello del Nero, Tuscany

The hotel set in an 12th-century Italian castle has tranquil minimalist style and sublime food (there's a Michelin-starred restaurant, La Torre). But it's the COMO Shambhala Retreat, you'll really want to visit. Start your day with a complimentary yoga class, then hop between steamy hammam and hydrotherapy pool. Move

onto a treatment – perhaps an anti-ageing facial or rebalancing massage. Then head for a healthy lunch on the hotel terrace, with stunning views of vines and olive trees.

Book it: Doubles from £493, room only; comohotels.com. Or try Elegant Resorts (elegantresorts.co.uk) for packages with flights.