

Inkaterra La Casona, Cusco, Peru, Cusco was the capital of the Incan empire before the invading Spanish took over. The incomers rather liked its grandeur and unique atmosphere, too, and built some of their finest churches and palaces in the city. La Casona is probably the oldest of all these dwellings, and has been restored lovingly and beautifully into a dark-wood-clad, sandy-stoned, earth-hued hotel-mansion of serious renown. There are just eleven suites, but they are each exquisite in their own right. Calm and pampering.

La Mamounia, Marrakech, Morocco, A modern-day icon decked out in dripping Moroccan finery, La Mamounia has long had a fabled reputation and plenty of friends in high places. Impressive, inviting and incredibly photogenic, this former Roaring Twenties hotspot feels timeless and singular, even now.

GoldenEye, Jamaica, Ian Fleming bought the clifftop plot on this site in 1946, before the estate was converted, many decades later, into a hodgepodge of luxury hillside huts and gorgeous, pontooned mini-villas down on the turquoise waters of the bay. Discreet, relaxed and friendly, it is a serious Caribbean hot-spot for those in the know, and the estate is dotted by trees bearing the names of the famous figures who planted them. A uniquely luxurious yet homely delight.

The Barcelona Edition, Barcelona, Spain, It's really easy to love this outpost of Edition – the clean, sleek Ian Schrager aesthetic is all there, of course, with guest rooms awash with a naturalistic palette (walnut panelling and blonde wood feature heavily) and a pared-down configuration; meanwhile, Italian linen and embossed Spanish-leather headboards inject a warm touch that makes you