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Soak up Cyprus with an Antiquary hotel at the Azia Beach Resort and Spa



The polished Le Touareg in Mauritius is a hit with celebrities and golfers alike

Azia Beach Resort and Spa, Cyprus

Why go? Tucked away on Cyprus's tranquil west coast, Azia is a three-in-one resort – three neighbouring hotels linked to the deluxe Aphrodite Spa – where most grating means all budgets are catered for. Far from the Central-farled glamour of Ayia Napa, this is one of the island's new breed of chic hotels but isn't ostentatious. They call it 'barefoot glamour' and kids are welcome. What you get Recently renovated, this five-star resort combines modern London design with a strong Cypriot influence – thick Art Nouveau iron lamps and Venetian Murano glass. Eat in themed evenings or hold every night at the Kato Coffee Shop, with flowers and fruit from the swarty Mavrounchos Plantation. The wow feature? Kate Winslet, New Campbell and Christy Turlington are all fans of their acclaimed Aphrodite Spa. Sign up for a Bliss Treatment – an hour-long, deep-tissue, full-body massage, which takes place in a grotto by the sea. *Nearest civilisation* Despite its quiet coastal location, the resort is only moments from the centre of Paphos.

Le Touareg, Mauritius

Why go there? Overlooking the placid lagoon d'Eau Douce bay on Mauritius's east coast, Le Touareg offers blissful isolation in the surroundings. The supermodel's hotspots of choice, the resort has played host to the likes of Naomi Campbell, Julia Roberts and Liberty Ross. What you get Rooms are unapologetically opulent – all Indian quartzite, Madagascar wood and porcelain. There's a butler on call for every guest, a Diversify spa on site and all the tennis, windsurfing, water skiing and sailing you could wish for, as well as an amazing Bernhard Langer-designed golf course. Those seeking absolute seclusion should head to the resort's private island, Île Mangrove, a 10-minute boat ride away. Eat in With six restaurants, guests are spoilt for choice. Those Nine Eight serves everything from classic French cuisine to wood-fired pizza, while L'Azur serves up modern Indian dishes. The wow feature The hotel's vast stone baths take some beating – made from poured concrete and marble. They'd qualify as sculptural pieces of art in a lesser hotel. *Nearest civilisation* The resort's about a 10-minute drive from the bright lights of Port Louis. Grande Ile Fleuve, the district's capital, is a short walk away. The beautiful botanical gardens at Pamplemousses are 10 minutes outside the resort. ➔



Costa's new spa includes a Great Wall Spa, designed for a new look.

Evason Hideaway & Spa, Senses Spa, Hua Hin

Why go there? If you want to realize your children's wish, then this is the place to do it. Despite the surprisingly appointed rooms, holistic health is taken very seriously here, so it's perfect for those who want to give their souls some sustenance without sacrificing earthly pleasures. What you get? There's the usual roll call of facilities, including tennis courts, children's club and gym, but the real draw here is the tailored lifestyle programmes that aim to set guests back on the spiritual straight and narrow. There's even a designated meditation cave to assist you on your quest to enlightenment. Eat in As you might expect, a menu of impeccably nutritious food created with ingredients sourced from the hotel's grounds is available in The Living Room restaurant. Otherwise, the

Beach Restaurant serves modern Mediterranean. The new feature? The newly opened Earth Spa - one day fumes that appear to float above a lily pond - is perfectly fragrant and stocked with organic products. **Nearest civilisation:** The resort is about a 15-minute drive from Hua Hin, a pretty coastal town with plenty of shops and top seafood restaurants.

Intercontinental Grand Resort, Goa

Why go there? Nest in the secluded Palolem beach, the Grand Resort is set in one of the more unspoilt corners of Goa. Perched on a confluence of two rivers, overlooking the Arabian sea, the hotel's spectacular setting will soothe even the most jaded of travellers. What you get? Landscaped gardens that stretch towards the Saltyads mountain range, and elegant, old-school style suites that overlook the ocean. There's a Champions-managed spa in the grounds that offers Ayurvedic massages, as well as a children's club, tennis and squash courts and a nine-hole golf course. The



Relax body and soul at the Ocean Hideaway & the Senses Spa in Hua Hin.

lunch has high-speed internet access if you're itching for contact with the real world. Eat in Camasca serves gutsy Mediterranean dishes, while Sea BQ offers super-fresh seafood. The new feature? The hotel's private beach, an amuraceous sweep of pristine white sand, is the most beautiful for miles around. **Nearest civilisation:** Corigan Wildlife Sanctuary is a mile away; closer still is the bustling market town of Chaudi. **E**

On a budget?

→ Castillo Puerto Apartments, Fuerteventura

Set in peaceful gardens right next to Cabaña de Forte beach in Fuerteventura, these three-star self-catering apartments are perfect if you fancy soaking up a bit of winter sun but want to avoid the hectic pace of Gran Canaria or Lanzarote.

✈ Getting there

For more information about organising a holiday to Bali, Cyprus, Thailand, India, Mauritius and Fuerteventura, contact Airframe, tel: +44 (0)1753 900 9619 quoting 'holidays' or visit airframe.co.uk or MyTravel at mytravel.com

Getting lost

Tabitha Lasley uncovers the ultimate secluded and far-flung hotel getaways for those who want to avoid the crowds

Aila Ubud, Bali

Why go there In the shadow of Bali's foothills, this resort is one of Bali's most eco-friendly. The grounds is very much an local culture and guests here can immerse themselves in the slow life of traditional Balinese life. **Who goes there** As the resort takes its inspiration from a Balinese hillside village, rooms are either perched on stilts among the trees or have their own garden terraces and open-air bathrooms. The spa offers hot, hot, hot, plant-based treatments, and classes run the gamut from batik workshops and Balinese dancing to beginner's guides to Hinduism and astrology. Outdoor types can go elephant riding, white-water rafting, climbing and hiking. **Eat in** Plantation Dining, the resort's main restaurant, serves modern Indonesian cuisine, such as tempura prawns in angel-hair filo. **The view** **Swing** The award-winning emerald-green infinity pool (pictured), which sits on the edge of the Ayung River valley and appears to float above the jungle. **Secret observation** Although the Aila Ubud hotel resort, it's only a mile from the town of Ubud.