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The Snob's GUIDE TO SUMMER

Don't have any plans yet? We can help. How does a perfect little hotel right on the water in Portofino sound? Or a 10-day walk through the Serengeti (kids welcome)? A fancy ranch in Montana? A reborn resort in Hawaii?

BY SARAH KHAN

A beach at Positano on the Amalfi Coast. The water is swimmable well into the fall.



Take a fresh look at old favorites in *Europe*.



The bathroom at Le Maurice's new Belle Etoile penthouse suite. The views of Paris are staggering too.

GET ONASSIS GLAMOUR IN **GREECE**

Finding a party on Mykonos is easy, but true luxury, not so much. **Kalesma**—25 suites and two villas, all with heated pools and patios on a hillside overlooking Ornos Bay—opens in June, and it will fix that. The aesthetic is soothing, Aman-like Cycladic minimalism, and the service promises to be five-star, with 24/7 butlers and even a “beach concierge.” There’s something fresh on Paros, too, where until now the quaint whitewashed cottages and vivid blue domes recalled Santorini but minus the glamour. When it opens in July, 33-room **Parillo** on Naoussa Bay will give the island a dose of contemporary, less-is-more design: neutral colors, concrete columns, and cues taken from Paros’s rugged natural surroundings—like the two massive boulders anchoring the cross-shaped pool. The swank start or ending to a Grecian holiday is a stay at the **Four Seasons Astir Palace**, on the Athens Riviera 30 minutes from downtown; it only opened fully last summer.



RETURN TO BELLE-EPOQUE **PARIS**

Should you need a fresh excuse to visit Paris, here are five. The 17th-century mansion at 19 Place des Vosges opened last fall as the **Cour des Vosges**, the city’s first hotel with full views of the famous square’s pink façades, slate roofs, and plane trees. Its 12 rooms—several of which can be combined, so you can take over an entire floor—are a soothing mix of French chateau grandeur and contemporary chic. **J.K. Place Paris**, on a quiet street off Boulevard Saint-Germain, is the high-style J.K. brand’s first foray outside Italy. The rooms, most with marble fireplaces, mix modern Italian furniture with antiques unearthed at Paris’s flea markets. On the Rue de Rivoli, **Le Maurice** has completed a \$6 million renovation of its penthouse Belle Etoile: 360-degree views of Paris at your feet. And LVMH’s **Cheval Blanc Paris**, designed by Peter Marino, opens this month in the former Art Deco home of the Samaritaine store, with 72 rooms, a Dior spa, four restaurants and bars, and a kids club. And last, the first hotel ever to occupy the grounds of nearby Versailles, **Airelles’s Château de Versailles-Le Grand Contrôle**, opens this spring with 14 rooms restored to 18th-century grandeur. Marie-Antoinette would approve.

LIVE IN A COUNT’S CASTLE IN **ITALY**

Think your go-to Italian holiday could use an upgrade? New hotels on the Amalfi Coast are a rare and wondrous thing, but one on a private sandy beach? Well, **Borgo Santandrea** has commandeered a secluded cove at the base of a cliff in minuscule Conca dei Marini, its 45 guestrooms done up with Midcentury Modern accents. In the Umbrian hills there’s a place with all the trappings of the Italian manor of your dreams: Olive groves? Check. Organic farm? Check. Forty purebred Andalusian horses? Check. Owned by a count? Check. Said count is now busy reviving a 10th-century castle on the estate (there are already 10 renovated villas for rent), which will debut this summer as the 36-room **Hotel Castello di Reschio**, with an underground spa. This summer new life will also be infused into an Italian Riviera classic: the 14-room seaside **Belmond Splendido Mare** in Portofino (with full access to its impossibly glamorous hillside sister property, the justly named **Splendido**).

WHO TO CALL

Greece: For a multistop itinerary, contact Athens-based Christos Stergiou, CHRISTOS@TRUETRIPS.COM. France: For à la carte arrangements in Paris or elaborate itineraries beyond, Jennifer Virgilio, JENNIFER@QOFCLUBS.COM. Italy: There’s almost nothing Lake Como-based Andrea Grisdale can’t arrange, ANDREA@ICBELLAGIO.COM.