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TRAVEL TRADE GAZETTE

DECEMBER 2020 | [ttgmedia.com](http://ttgmedia.com)

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Europe's hottest new hotels for 2021



## STEP INTO CHRISTMAS

The festive period gets under way  
with new hope for travel in 2021

# Jet set, go!

It's time to say good riddance to 2020, and focus on some beautiful new hotels in Europe that could hopefully feature high on clients' wonder list for 2021

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## Ireland

Britain may be leaving the EU, but there are plenty of reasons we're all still in love with Europe – including our beautiful closest neighbour, Ireland. New for the spring will be **Carton House** ([fairmont.com](http://fairmont.com)), a Fairmont managed hotel, half an hour from Dublin with 169 rooms. Guests will love the vast 1,100-acre estate, but the centrepiece is The House, which features 18 suites and staterooms named after characters associated with the history of Carton House, while two world-class 18-hole championship golf courses are designed by Colin Montgomerie and Mark O'Meara. Another one to keep on the radar is 42-bedroom **Cashel Palace Hotel** ([cashelpalacehotel.ie](http://cashelpalacehotel.ie)), where a huge restoration and renovation project is expected to near its end by the middle of the year. Built in 1734 and steeped in history, this former archbishop's grand country house will now host the Bishop's Buttery Restaurant and new additions will include a ballroom and spa overlooking the gardens.



([maisonila.com](http://maisonila.com)) – also known as **Le Tresor** – created by Denise Leicester, founder of organic skincare and spa brand Ila. Set in the heart of the Aude countryside (2.5 hours from Toulouse), the main house has five bedrooms, communal dining space, treatment room and yoga and sound-healing studio, while a self-contained cottage has two bedrooms. And for deluxe skiers, one new option is **Ultima Courchevel** ([ultimacourchevel.com](http://ultimacourchevel.com)), which combines 13 chalets with two spas, lavish restaurant and

direct access to the slopes of the Tarentaise Valley, located just in between 1850 and 1650. Paris will of course also come back to life for international travellers, and one new hotel to have in your address book will be a new addition to the Maisons Pariente chic collection of properties, **Le Grand Mazarin** ([maisonspariente.com](http://maisonspariente.com)), which is set to open towards the end of the year.



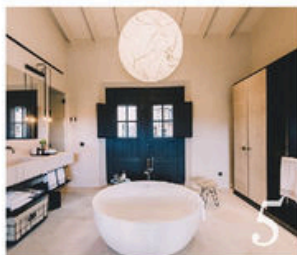
## Switzerland

The fresh air and charming chocolate-box scenery of the Swiss Alps is about to be added to by the beautiful **Kempinski Palace Engelberg** ([kempinski.com](http://kempinski.com)), which opens its 129 rooms and suites and top-floor infinity pool in the spring, 90 minutes from Zurich. Also in the spring, Oetker Collection ([oetkercollection.com](http://oetkercollection.com)) will be expanding with the arrival of **The Woodward**, a 26-suite hotel on the shores of Lake Geneva transformed by the legendary Pierre-Yves Rochon, with gastronomy driven by Joel Robuchon and Alain Verzeroli, and a spa by Guerlain.



## France

One of many projects worldwide that delayed its opening until the (hopefully) brighter times of 2021 is **Airelles Chateau de Versailles, Le Grand Controle** ([airelles.com](http://airelles.com)), which – as the name suggests – sits right at the heart of the Chateau de Versailles, featuring 14 rooms and suites, Alain Ducasse restaurant, spa by Valmont and indoor pool. One of the hot cakes of the summer will be **Villa Sainte-Anne** ([oetkercollection.com](http://oetkercollection.com)), sitting opposite Oetker Collection's **Hotel du Cap-Eden-Roc**. After a two-year refurbishment, guests will love the five en-suite bedrooms, spa, cascading gardens with pool and full team ready to take care of every whim. Soft-launched in 2020, but hoping for a full season in 2021, is **Maison Ila**



4 a four-bedroom villa. Then the wellbeing wonder and sustainability kudos of **Six Senses Ibiza** ([sixsenses.com](https://sixsenses.com)) arrives in the second half of the year on the northern tip of the island, set across 20 acres with 134 rooms and suites and a range of villas. And over on another Balearic island, the 32-room **Can Ferrereta** ([hotelcanferrereta.com](https://hotelcanferrereta.com)) will launch in March in the Majorcan village of Santanyi (it will make for an impressive combination with its boutique sister hotel in Palma, San Francesc), while the larger 304-suite **Zafiro Palace Andratx** ([zafirohotels.com](https://zafirohotels.com)) launches

in the village of Camp de Mar, close to a Blue Flag beach and the ancient town of Andratx, in the spring too.



### Portugal

The British love affair with Portugal is bound to be rekindled in 2021, and there will be a beautiful new hotel to sample by May. A project from Campbell Gray Hotels, the **Palacio de Canavezes** ([campbellgrayhotels.com](https://campbellgrayhotels.com)) is being created within a 1900s palace visited by the Portuguese royal family and renowned for its thermal waters. Found half an hour from Porto, the hotel will have 52 rooms and suites all overlooking the Tamega river on the edge of the Douro valley, a terrace restaurant, indoor pool and thermal spa centre built into the rockface, plus there's a jetty for watersports.



### Malta

Another hotel we should have been able to feast our eyes on this year, **Iniala Harbour House & Residences**



([inialaharbourhouse.com](https://inialaharbourhouse.com)) will finally make its debut in April. Spread across four townhouses and ancient vaults dating back to the 1600s, Iniala is set on the historic St Barbara Bastions and has 23 rooms and suites. It's driven by Manchester-born former trader, now entrepreneur and philanthropist, Mark Weingard, who has thrown everything into creating a luxury icon for the island, rooted in design, heritage, service and art. With Valletta's role as a Unesco World Heritage Site, the hotel will offer fascinating underground tours of the city, and there's also exclusive use of Spirit Of Iniala, the hotel's Rivarama 44 luxury boat.



### Greece

You can't go wrong with a Domes resort, with low-key luxury style in great locations; now there's a new one in the portfolio for 2021. **Domes of Corfu** ([domesresorts.com](https://domesresorts.com)), which will be featured by several operators, including Olympic Holidays ([olympicholidays.com](https://olympicholidays.com)).

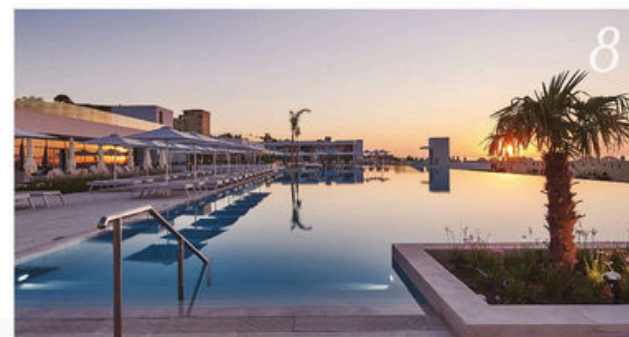
Previously the LTI Grand Corfu, but reopening in May as part of the Domes Resorts family, the 214-room hotel on Glyfada beach has undergone a complete renovation including a great new concept,

Core Spianada, an open-air mix of pop-up shops, street-style dining, cool food trucks and contemporary art. In May, Rhodes gets to boast about a new adults-only addition: **Lindos Grand Resort & Spa** ([lindosgrand.com](https://lindosgrand.com)), with its 120 rooms, some with private infinity pools, and a spa offering vegan-friendly, natural treatments. And lastly, **OKU Kos** ([okuhotels.com](https://okuhotels.com)), which soft-launched in July but gets a full opening this April, is a village-style beach hideaway with 100 rooms, suites and villas on the popular island.



### Serbia

Anyone bored of the usual European cities could be pointed towards Serbia's capital, Belgrade, on the confluence of the Danube and Sava rivers, which split the city into the traditionally more attractive Old Belgrade, and New Belgrade. And the newcomer in town is **Hotel Indigo** ([ihg.com](https://ihg.com)) opening in Q2 and situated above stylish luxury retail stores, with just 44 guest rooms that take their design inspiration from the local neighbourhood of Doreol.



### Montenegro

Finally making its debut after years of tempting us will be **One&Only Portonovi** ([oneandonlyresorts.com](https://oneandonlyresorts.com)), opening in Boka Bay on 21 March in what's being pitched as Montenegro's "Adriatic Riviera". It also marks One&Only's first hotel in Europe, and this year-round, 113-room resort will also boast 11 pools, access to a private beach and a Chenot Espace facility, offering pioneering wellness treatments, as well as being surrounded by a high-end marina.



### Romania

It's been a while coming, but Transylvania is edging onto the experiential luxury map; already known for its beautiful scenery and rural appeal, it now has **Bethlen Estates Transylvania** ([bethlenestates.com](https://bethlenestates.com)). Come the spring, the Bethlen family will be revealing the first fruits of an almost 13-year project of acquiring tumbledown buildings in their ancestral village of Cris, with the aim of restoring them into havens of tranquillity to attract design-savvy travellers. The purposeful project kicks off with three immaculately restored houses accommodating up to 20 guests between them, and a host of experiences to get guests deep into Transylvania, with its historic citadels, untamed countryside and spectacular wildlife, often referred to as Europe's last true wilderness. ■

#### Pictured

1. Carton House, a Fairmont-managed hotel in Ireland
2. Maison Ila is set in the French countryside of Aude
3. Italian palazzo Villa Iglesia overlooks the gulf of Palermo
4. Oku Ibiza is set to open in May
5. Can Ferrereta will launch in March in Majorca
6. Iniala Harbour House & Residences, Malta
7. A restored Bethlen Estates Transylvania property
8. An infinity pool at Lindos Grand Resort & Spa, Greece

#### Find out more

For even more hotel and resort debuts to look forward to in 2021, go online for our guide to a host of fantastic openings around the world – plus check out the Stylecation guide to some of the best UK's best newcomers in 2021, and discover insight from luxury operators and agents on their insider tips and trends in 2021, [ttgluxury.com](https://ttgluxury.com)