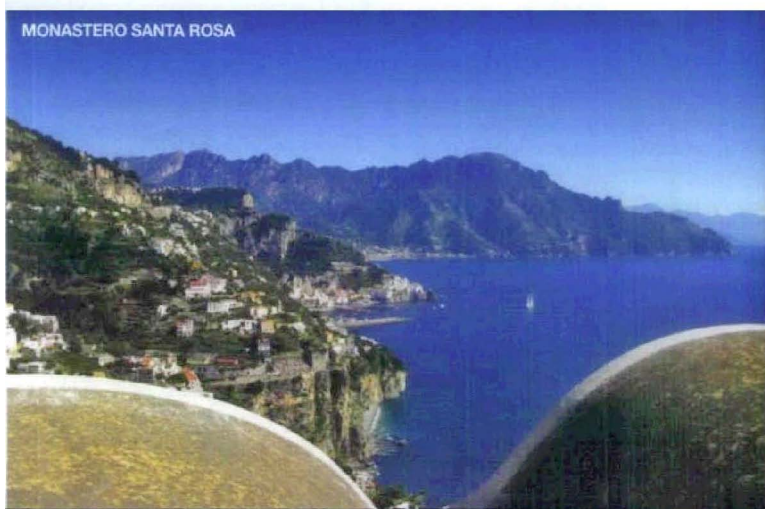


Hot and hip

An intimate Turkish hotel and a converted Italian monastery are among Keya Modessa's round-up of worldwide hotel openings



Berlin-based Design Hotels has opted for the historic location of Vienna for its latest opening. Hotel Topazz proudly holds the title as the city's first green hotel using eco-friendly materials throughout from furniture to food. Beyond the hotel's dark cylindrical form, the interior pays homage to Austrian artists like Dagobert Peche. Rooms stick to earthy shades and come with wooden panelling and oval windows gazing down on to the old town (hoteltopazz.com).

Laying claim to a dazzling stretch of Turkey's coastline, luxury travel experts Elixir has added the Doria Hotel to its existing portfolio. This is their second property on the coast of Kaş; the ten white-washed rooms come with punches of colour and there's even a private pier complete with sun loungers overlooking the sparkling turquoise of the Mediterranean sea. Go for a quick dip or enjoy the views while munching on a selection of Turkish meze (elixirvillas.com).

Leading Spanish hotel heavyweight, Melia Hotels International is opening the design savvy ME London this summer making the landmark Marconi House its new home. The hotel reception has been designed to resemble a pyramid stretching ten storeys high with white marble walls. Champagne-coloured furnishings decorate rooms which come with king-sized beds and triangular windows. The rooftop terrace bar with 180-degree panoramic views over London will be the perfect place for summer evenings (me-by-melia.com).

Captivated by a 17th-century monastery, American-born Bianca Sharma has transformed the former building into a boutique hotel suspended over the Bay of Salerno on Italy's Amalfi Coast. Sea views lure guests into rooms, which are decorated with historical photographs of the monastery and local antiques. While away the hours in the landscaped gardens, pool or explore the private chapel (monasterosantarosa.com).

Diary dates

ENGLAND

Bruno Loubet battles to reclaim his BBQ King crown at Laverstoke's Field to Fork Festival 9-10 June. The event is part of this country-show-meets-food-festival in Hampshire. fieldtoforkfestival.co.uk

AMERICA

Thirty mas bands and over 3,000 masqueraders come together for the 20th Washington Carniva on 23 June. Don't miss the contest to find the calypso king. dcccarnival.org

