



Condé Nast Traveller

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ON THE
ROAD WITH
**HUGH
JACKMAN**

PARIS

ITS HIP NEW NEIGHBOURHOOD

MOROCCO

GREAT PLACES TO
STAY IN THE DESERT

AUSTRALIA

TUNE IN, DROP OUT, SURF'S UP

SKI SPECIAL

THE BEST OF THE ALPS

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FIRST REVIEW OF A
REBORN CLASSIC

THE
GOLD STANDARD

OUR ALL-TIME FAVOURITE HOTELS, RESTAURANTS,
COCKTAIL BARS & BEACH CLUBS

BEACH CLUBS



EXPERIMENTAL BEACH IBIZA

The setting is glorious, right at the very end of the salt flats, along a dusty bumpy lane that you're sure must lead to nowhere. Out here at Cap d'es Falcó, on the edge of a deserted pebbly stretch, the funky French dudes from the Experimental Cocktail Club gang have set up their first beach outpost. It's the grooviest spot to open on Ibiza for quite some time, joyfully far removed from the Blue Marlin scene, where girls wobble in the sand on absurd high heels. Here everyone is barefoot and chilled-out. There's the strum of an acoustic guitar as the sun goes down, punchy cocktails are poured into heavy crystal glasses and handsome waiters serve Padrón peppers and plates of salty Iberian ham under a string of fairy lights. +34 664 331 269; www.eccbeach.com. Cocktails from about £10

SALT BEACH CLUB BARCELONA

When Mediterranean summer madness begins, invariably during the spring, Barcelona natives avoid the crowds of Ibiza in favour of staying at home and slipping off to Salt instead. The W Hotel's latest addition to a seemingly never-ending portfolio of venues is this snazzy bar and bistro that takes a more relaxed approach to the five-star seaside experience. Sure, the Veuve Clicquot is free-flowing and Isabel López Vilalta's dining room slicker and more polished than its neighbours, but it's the natty little beach hut in the sand with the pale-wood deck that makes it so special. Hop across the boardwalk, where powder-soft white sand has been shipped in especially, and fling yourself into one of the vintage easy chairs for a pineapple Mojito and a one-off sunset session courtesy of DJs en-route to the White Isle for the season. +34 93 295 2819; www.saltbeachclub.com. Cocktails from about £9

SHIMMY BEACH CLUB CAPE TOWN

Looking for a low-key beach shack with a footwear-optional vibe? Keep looking. Since it opened to much fanfare in December 2012, Shimmy Beach Club has become Cape Town's hottest place to see, be seen, soak up the sun and swim. Disembark from your car, boat or helicopter, and you're greeted by floor-to-ceiling windows that yield views of a slip of white sand anchored by a freestanding infinity pool and the dark-blue waters of the ocean beyond. The vast space is minimalist and spare, save for a scattering of glittering chandeliers and a sliver or two of lustrous blue wallpaper. The crowd sets the scene, day or night, with the city's best-dressed and best-looking sipping on cocktails. You can kick off your sandals when you get to the sand, but they had better be Louboutins. +27 021 200 7778; www.shimmybeachclub.com. Strawberry Daiquiri about £3

10.7 FORMENTERA

While everyone is nudging in front of each other's Sunseeker to anchor at the best spot in the overcrowded waters off Illetes Beach, and busting a gut to get a table at Juan y Andrea for a plate of humdrum paella and the teeny-tiny chance of being there at the same time as Beyoncé and Jay Z, the cooler crowd is kicking back here. White director's chairs sit in the shade beneath a bamboo awning, looking out to a shock of turquoise sea. Tables are laden with magnums of crisp Provençal rosé in dripping ice buckets, platters of fresh sashimi – chef Masahito Kanayama hails from Osaka – and bowls of hand-made tortellini. If you want to flop on the beach afterwards there's a little gathering of beds and umbrellas down by the water; but at the weekends, lunch is long-haul, stretching well into the early evening with rounds of espressos turning into calls for jugs of sangria as the music notches right up. www.10punto7.com

