

# HYBRID HOTELS

These hotels show us how multi-tasking is done, proving that providing on-site activities or services makes these stays twice as fun

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Left: See the eco lifestyle on a tour of The Green Village, Ubud

This page: Phum Baitong's restaurants use rice farmed on site

**M**illennials are said to be the generation that is changing everything, and that includes hotels. They want more than free wi-fi and fluffy towels – they want their holiday, and their hotel, to be unique and Instagramable. So hotel designers are now creating venues that will wow their ultra-demanding guests. These hotels are no longer just places to rest your head, they're now art galleries, tattoo parlours and clinics. It's so popular that a top luxury travel company named hybrid hotels as one of the hottest travel trends for 2018. We reveal some of the hybrid hotels that can be found on our doorstep.

## Try eco living

If Robinson Crusoe had won the lottery, he would have built this. It started with a hotel, then they added a school, and now this bamboo metropolis found within Ubud in Bali features close to 15 homes. The Green Village, which was the idea of former jeweller John Hardy, has now expanded to include the Bambu Indah hotel, the Green School and an array of out-of-this-world villas. You can book »







## Where to find

### Bambu Indah

Banjar Baung, Desa Sayan, Ubud, Gianyar, Bali, bambuindah.com

### Artotel Sanur

Jl Kusuma Sari No. 1, Sanur, Bali, artotelindonesia.com

### The Siam Hotel

3/2 Thanon Khao, Vachirapayabal, Dusit, Bangkok, Thailand, thesiamhotel.com

### Phum Baitang

Phum Svaydangkum, Sangkat Svaydangkum, Siem Reap, Cambodia, zannierhotels.com

### Six Senses Duxton

83 Duxton Rd, Singapore, sixsenses.com/resorts/duxtion/destination

### Nihi Sumba

Desa Hobawawi, Kecamatan Wanukaka, Sumba, Indonesia, nihi.com

far more salubrious Six Senses Duxton created by celebrity designer Anouska Hempel. This new boutique hotel in Tanjong Pagar, Singapore, includes a traditional Chinese medicine clinic.

Visitors are offered readings, health recommendations and a bespoke herb tincture. The minibar even speaks to your health, with daily health exilirs.

The elegant hotel is no slouch when it comes to decor either; it's bedecked in gold, black and yellow, with east-meets-west style.

## Chocolate. Need we say more?

Sweet dreams are made of this. Located within

the grounds of Nihi Sumba in Indonesia is Chris & Charly's Chocolate Factory. This fairy tale-like hideaway is filled with bubbling pots of chocolate. The team use cacao and coconut sugar from local Sumbanese plantations to create three different types of mouthwatering chocolate bars, which they sell in the Nihi Sumba Gift Shop.

The profits from each bar sold go to the Sumba Foundation, which provides humanitarian aid through local, village-based projects. Kids staying at the hotel are also invited to take part in cooking classes at the factory and make their own mini creations. ✈

into the hotel, which comprises 11 antique Javanese bridal homes, or if you need a little more space, you can stay in one of the villas for the real eco experience.

## Find your inner artist

The creative capital of Bali, Ubud, is about to get its own art hotel. Artotel Haniman is expected to launch this year, joining Artotel Sanur in Bali. The boutique hotel by the beach has not only invited local artists to each adopt a room and paint a bespoke mural

on the walls, but the Artotel Sanur team also host exhibitions in their permanent gallery Artspace and run workshops and masterclasses for guests and locals. You can expect the same when they open in Ubud.

## Get inked

Tucked away within The Siam Hotel in Bangkok, you'll find Sak Yant Tattoo. More like a temple than a tattoo parlour, this consecrated room is where former monk Ajarn Boo inks guests with sacred Sak Yant tattoos.

One of Boo's former clients is none other than Angelina Jolie. So while you might not have the awards, million-dollar pay packet or cheekbones, you can have the ink.

These traditional hand-drawn designs that are imbued with blessings are tapped into your skin using a steel rod (formerly bamboo).

## Work the land

Away from the hustle and bustle of Siem Reap, you'll find the boutique hotel Phum Baitang, surrounded by acres of rice paddy fields. But it's

not just a representation of a traditional Khmer village, the staff also work the land. Guests get the chance to plough the fields with the help of a buffalo and can plant and harvest the rice. The resort's rice is served in its two restaurants; farm to fork indeed. And don't worry, if playing a farmer is not your idea of a holiday, the five-star resort has plenty of other attractions.

## Focus on health

What was once a hive of opium and gambling dens is now the home of the



Opposite: Fancy an outdoor pool and on-site tattoo? Visit The Siam Hotel

Above: Get a check up at the stylish Six Senses Duxton