



INDEPENDENT

— *Hotels*

The hottest new hotel openings in the world for 2024

Out-of-this-world digs are flinging open their doors on every corner of the globe next year. Hotel expert Ianthe Butt reveals her top picks worldwide



Not sure where to head in 2024? Whether it's a European city break, rural escape or something more far-flung, plenty of destination-in-their-own-right hotels are set to open in the next 12 months.

A host of fan favourites will head to new locations, with bohemian-cool Our Habitas touching down in Costa Rica, Six Senses' first Japanese outpost arriving in Kyoto, and The Hoxton bringing their playful energy to easy-to-reach-by-rail Vienna.

For those after a hit of European wilderness, there's new Grecian island escape Gundari on go-slow Folegandros, and Transylvanian hilltop retreat Matca, which will see historic farmhouses reimagined into a contemporary getaway close to forests where lynx and bear roam.

After somewhere arty? Firmdale Hotels' third property in New York City will have colourful art-packed public spaces while in Australia, newbie boutique hotel Sea Sea in NSW promises a seriously creative stay, with its own photography exhibitions and music space.

Read on for the best new hotel openings worldwide to bookmark.

Matca Hotel, Romania

Opening: January 2024

Set to add new flourish to rural village Șimon on a hilltop with Bucegi and Piatra Craiului mountain views is Matca, which will have 16 rooms and 10 private villas. Guest rooms, inside two shingle-roofed farmhouses with inner courtyards, will feature quintessentially Transylvanian decor with a contemporary twist: think gates hand-carved by craftsmen from Făgăraș, intricate fabric embroidery, local objets d'art and botanical wall collages. As well as a spa and bar there's Restaurant Stup, all about unhurried, slow cooking, which will serve the likes of buckwheat dumplings with pumpkin sauce, and parsnip creme brulee with praline custard. Matca is surrounded by pristine forests, meaning wholesome activities include hikes, bear safaris and beekeeping classes.

