

EXPERIENCE

Luxury Hotel Openings Surge in 2021

By Tracy Kaler April 3, 2021 8:00 am ET



A water villa at Patina Maldives, Fari Island.
Patina Hotels & Resorts



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Though the pandemic has wreaked havoc on the travel industry, 2021 brings a litany of hotel openings globally, as hospitality giants and boutique properties make their debuts in major cities and off-the-grid locales. When Covid-19 wanes and tourism creeps back, luxury accommodations aim to entice travelers, offering idyllic settings, delicious food, and culture aplenty.

One of the year's most anticipated properties, the **Four Seasons Resort and Residences Napa Valley** is scheduled to premier mid-year. Located in Calistoga, Calif., a small town known for its hot springs history, the hotel is Napa's first to be set in a working winery. The 85 Erin Martin-curated rooms feature fireplaces, private terraces, and vineyard views.

"Four Seasons Resort and Residences Napa Valley is ushering in a new wine country," says General Manager Mehdi Eftekari. "It is an extraordinary destination set amidst a hand-farmed, 7.4-acre organic vineyard led by renowned winemaker Thomas Rivers Brown."



Four Seasons Resort Napa Valley.
Four Seasons

Also opening mid-2021, the **Four Seasons New Orleans** is poised to be a dining destination. James Beard award-winning Louisiana chefs Alon Shaya and Donald Link will head the food and beverage outlets at the 341-room high-rise, the first luxury hotel to hit the Crescent City in two decades. An impressive art collection will represent local talent and tell the story of New Orleans.

“Our extensive art showcases New Orleans artists, as well as those influenced by our great city,” says Mali Carow, General Manager, Four Seasons Hotel and Private Residences New Orleans. “This hotel will live and breathe New Orleans—our guests will eat it, drink it, and become a part of it.”

Buzz has embraced **Aman New York**, the 83-key flagship at 57th Street and Fifth Avenue in the heart of Midtown Manhattan. The billion-dollar project, designed by Jean-Michel Gathy, is transforming the iconic Crown Building and restoring the structure to its architectural grandeur. This refuge will house a pool overlooking Central Park, a wellness center with a hammam, banya, and yoga studios, as well as three restaurants. It’s slated to open in spring.

For travelers craving a remote domestic getaway, **The Chatwal Lodge** is on the schedule for June. Dream Hotel Group’s mountain hideaway is nestled in The Chapin Estate, a 2,500-acre gated preserve in New York’s Catskills and a haven where nature meets luxury. The 10 Adirondack-themed suites come complete with patios peering out over the Toronto Reservoir. “We are committed to embracing the natural resources of the area to create an enterprise that truly redefines the town and country luxury hospitality experience,” says Dream Hotel Group founder and chairman Sant Singh Chatwal.

Similarly, **The Green O** in Greenough, Mont., promises an adults-only respite on the edge of the 37,000-acre Paws Up Ranch. The 12 thoughtfully designed units, or “Haus,” feature floor-to-ceiling windows with views of the Montana wilderness. Adult guests can go horseback riding, fly fishing, hiking, and climbing, beginning in June.

Paradero Todos Santos in Baja California Sur, Mexico, claims to blur the line between indoor and outdoor living. “The all-suite property is situated within the last unspoiled farming community and an agricultural area comprising more than a dozen family-owned farms,” says co-owner Pablo Carmona. At this soft adventure oasis, guests will encounter sweeping views of the Sierra de la Laguna Mountains and the Pacific Ocean. “Our fundamental belief is that extraordinary outdoor experiences go hand-in-hand with sustainability, community development and conservation,” says partner Josh Kremer. Expect 35 sanctuary-like suites, a 100,000 square-foot botanical garden boasting 60 endemic species, and an underground spa inspired by a secret watering hole in Todos Santos. This adults-only property opened on Feb. 1.

A skip across the Atlantic, NoMad Hotels is launching its first property outside of the U.S. Situated in Covent Garden and close to the Royal Opera House, the 91-room **NoMad London** injects its brand of hip into the former magistrates’ court, a 19th-century building reconceived by New York-based design firm Roman and Williams. The U.K. outpost, scheduled to debut sometime this spring, will house the NoMad restaurant, Side Hustle Bar, The Library, and a cocktail tavern.



NoMad London.
NoMad

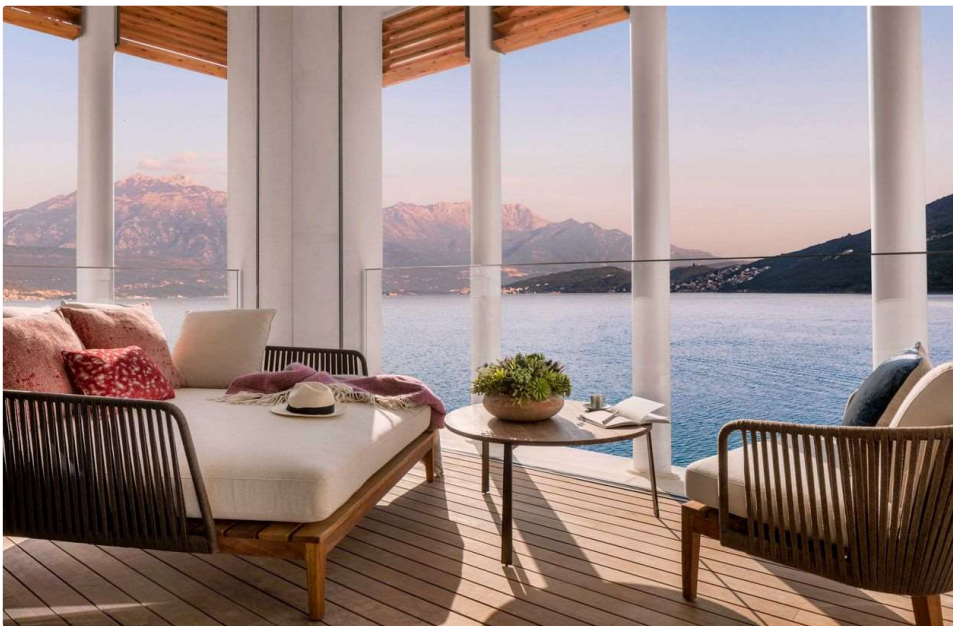
Ian Schrager-envisioned EDITION Hotels has seven properties set to open in the lineup. “Seven is the lucky number; I look forward to 2021 being our best year yet,” Schrager says. **The Reykjavik EDITION**—the first of the brand’s 2021 openings—is slated to start accepting reservations this summer. The 253-key property sits in a lively district of Iceland’s capital city, adjacent to Harpa Concert Hall. This outpost will present various dining and entertainment options, including a signature restaurant, nightlife space, café, and rooftop.

Bulgari Hotels & Resorts will open the 76-room **Bulgari Hotel Paris**, the seventh in its portfolio of properties, this fall. The adapted 19th-century building makes a splash on the corner of the Triangle d’Or, with its reimagined facade inspired by Haussmann architecture, shrouded in limestone yet assuming a rationalistic style. Guests can

swim in the spa's 82-foot pool and dine in the Bulgari restaurant and bar, overlooking a lush courtyard garden.

Catering to gourmets and wine lovers, **Casa di Langa** will serve the Piedmont region of Italy beginning in May. As the area's first five-star sustainable hotel, the 39-key retreat sits among 100-plus acres of vineyards between Barolo, Barbaresco, and Alta Langa. An on-site vegetable garden and greenhouse, farm-to-table cooking classes, guided truffle hunts, art tours of the property's collection, and a wine academy for tastings and WSET certification round out the offerings.

"From our first visit to Piedmont, my wife and I were struck by the grandeur of the landscape, the unforgettable food and wine, and, most of all, the generosity of the people," says Kyle Krause, Chairman and CEO of the Krause Group and owner of Casa di Langa.



One&Only Portonovi, Montenegro.
One&Only

The unspoiled coastal-mountain landscape may be the draw at **One&Only Portonovi, Montenegro**, sitting at the entrance to Boka Bay along the Adriatic Coast. Guests will have access to a private beach and the world-renowned Chenot Espace: a unique wellness concept that merges Chinese medicine with Western technology. Michelin-starred Chef Giorgio Locatelli will helm Sabia, a restaurant showcasing local, organic, and seasonal Southern Italian dishes. Featuring about 140 accommodations, it's scheduled to open in May.

For travelers interested in experiencing the other side of Mykonos—not the raucous party destination the Greek Island is known for—**Kalesma** is due to open in spring. Besides its dreamy Aegean Sea backdrop, the 27-room property wants to help guests experience local artists' studios, private beaches, and area shops. And there's a nod to design too. The Cycladic theme showcases whitewash walls and earthy colors, with lobby furnishings by designer Rick Owens.



The lounge area at Kalesma Mykonos.
Kalesma

Six Senses will debut several outposts in 2021, but perhaps the most alluring is **Six Senses Shahrut**, about a 3.5-hour drive from Tel Aviv or Jerusalem. Positioned atop a hill in Israel's unworldly Negev Desert, the remote five-star resort might be the ultimate off-the-grid vacation, with its sunrise yoga, late-night stargazing, desert adventure, and 360-degree vistas. "One of the resort's biggest assets is the abundant space, essential for setting new benchmarks for today's highest safety and hospitality standards," says Six Senses Shahrut's General Manager Thomas Fehlbier. This 46-acre property should start accepting guests in August.

The St. Regis Cairo, **Michael Graves'** 39-story creation towering over the Nile River at the north end of the Corniche, opened on Jan. 7. All 286 guest rooms and suites include the St. Regis's signature butler service. This notable debut aligns with the long-awaited Grand Egyptian Museum (GEM), cutting its ribbon later this year.

Patina Maldives, **Fari Island** offers tourists the opportunity to positively impact people and place. Zero-waste kitchens, recycling marine plastic, and a plant-based restaurant are a handful of the sustainability initiatives championed by the property, which will offer 110 rooms and open in the second quarter of 2021. One percent of the hotel's gross operating profits will fund charitable causes to support women and children of the Maldives and local communities affected by climate change.

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