

SUITCASE

TRAVEL + FASHION

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TOP TEN ECO-FRIENDLY HOTELS

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[Home](#) • [Travel](#) • [Explore](#) • [Current Article](#)

If you thought top-quality accommodation and sustainability were mutually exclusive, think again. In all corners of the globe, hotels are now offering luxurious digs, superb service and first-rate facilities alongside some pretty impressive green credentials.

To celebrate the UN's Year of Sustainable Tourism, we've selected ten of our favourites. From luxury hotels and eco-lodges to a private island and a tree house, finding somewhere memorable to stay while leaving little impact has never been easier.



Tri Lanka, Sri Lanka

Situated on the shores of Sri Lanka's largest natural lake, Tri Lanka takes contemporary sustainable design to new levels. The 11 beautiful suites were created using entirely local materials and the interiors and exteriors blend into the landscape with living walls, green roofs, edible gardens, solar arrays and recycled wood throughout. To ensure minimal impact, every last detail has been considered: it's a completely plastic-free zone, the lighting is LED



White Pod, Switzerland

If you're looking for a completely unique hotel experience, [White Pod](#) may just be the ticket. Their eco-luxury pods nestled high up in Swiss Alps allow you get back to nature without forgoing any luxuries. Sustainability is high on the hotel's agenda with pods heated by pellet stoves, all the furniture reclaimed or recycled, and the panoramic restaurant serving food that is all locally sourced. The highlight? The incredible view from your pod, as well as the



Inkaterra Reserva Amazonica, Amazon Rainforest, Peru

If you're planning a trip to [Peru](#) look no further than Inkaterra, a small travel company pioneering sustainable tourism across the country. Of their five hotels, our favourite is the [Inkaterra Reserva Amazonica](#). Located deep in the Amazon jungle, this eco-lodge is the perfect base for exploring the lush jungle and spotting the incredible wildlife – don't miss the treetop canopy walkway or a night spent in the tree house. Best of all, your stay funds ecological research and conservation projects alongside providing planet-friendly jobs.



The Scarlet, Cornwall

Perched upon a cliff in north [Cornwall](#), [The Scarlet](#) is top of our list for a UK-based eco-escape. The unique glass structure truly makes the most of its stunning location, and you'll have a hard time dragging yourself away from the hotel itself thanks to the [Ayurvedic](#) spa, natural swimming pool, cliff side log hot tubs and endless relaxation areas. When it comes to sustainability, The Scarlet has taken 101 steps to improve their green credentials. To name a few, there are solar panels and biomass boilers throughout, local produce dominating in the restaurant and the all-natural spa runs an upcycling towel



La Granja, Ibiza

Worlds away from the all-night clubs and flashy beach resorts, La Granja, a restored farmhouse come nine-room agriturismo, is much more in keeping with the original bohemian vibe of the white isle. The Design Hotels project markets itself as a members-only retreat where like minded souls can come together to relax in the rustic surroundings, enjoy food fresh from the farm via communal dining, and partake in weekly rituals including music, workshops and yoga. From pioneering biodynamic farm techniques to supporting the Ibiza



Six Senses Ninh Van Bay, Vietnam

When it comes to five-star luxury with an eco edge, look no further than Six Senses Ninh Van Bay. Located on a secret bay in southern Vietnam reachable only by boat, this sustainable masterpiece blends beautifully with its natural environment, and the collection of villas (all with either direct beach or sea access) make for a truly magnificent stay. Like all Six Senses properties, the hotel sticks to strict sustainability standards as well as supporting a number of local community projects – at Six Senses Ninh Van Bay your stay benefits the Ninh Van



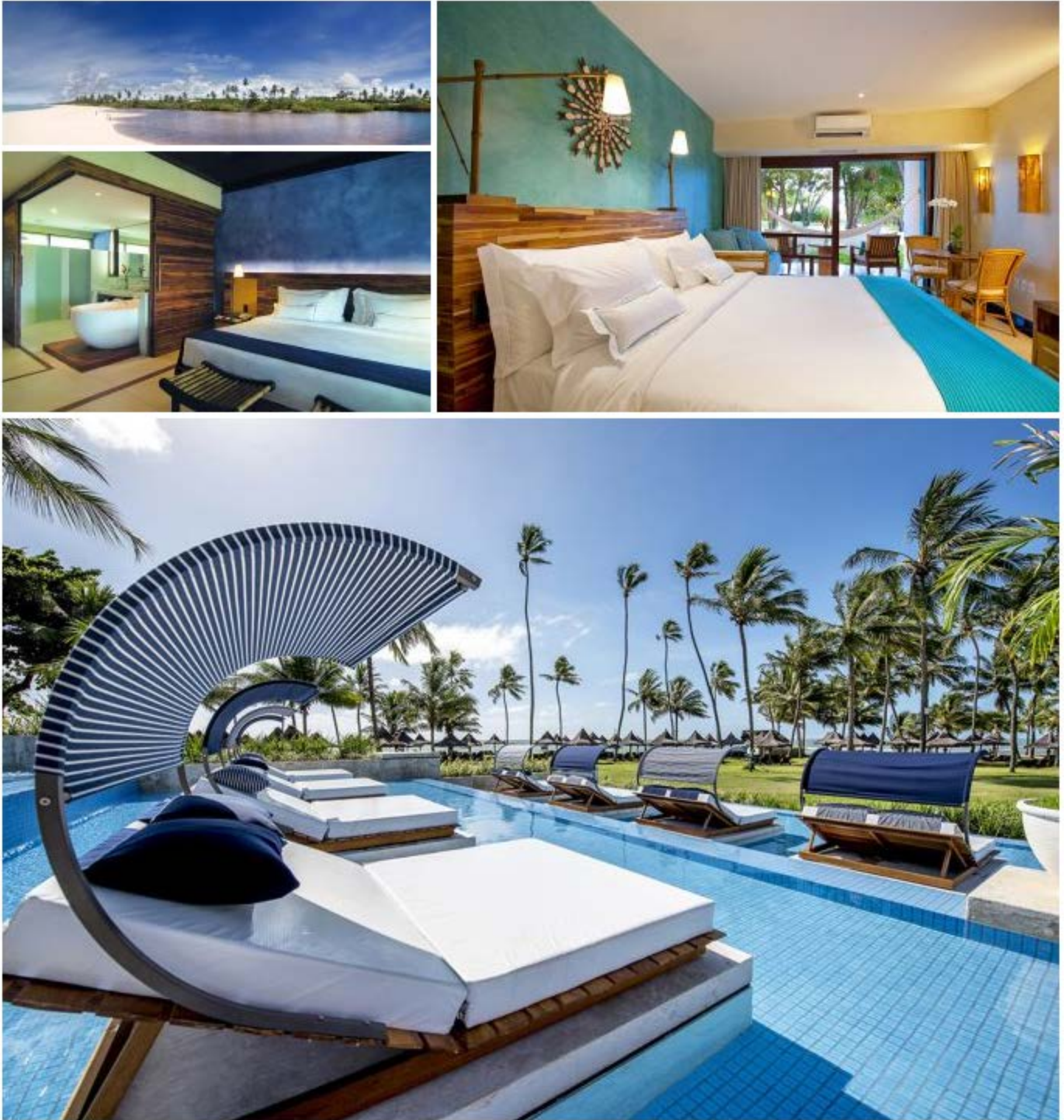
Hostal Grau, Barcelona

Cast aside your thoughts of organised bar crawls and dodgy dorms, [this hostel](#) is much more like a boutique hotel – and a sustainable one at that. From the coconut-fibre mattresses to the recycled furniture and automatic water saving taps, every effort has been made to implement its sustainable intentions. Slap bang in the middle of [Barcelona's](#) buzzing historic district, style has not been scrimped on either, and the simple yet chic rooms provide the



Jicaró Island Lodge, Nicaragua

If you wish to live out a Robinson Crusoe fantasy and really escape from it all, [Jicaró Island Lodge](#) is for you. This island getaway just minutes from the colonial town of Granada consists of nine two-storey casitas on stilts, a lovely private beach and floating yoga deck. Built entirely from timber reclaimed from trees blown down during Hurricane Felix, its eco-credentials are impressive. Not just successful when it comes to leaving minimal impact, they also prioritise supporting their local community through training and education based



Tivoli Ecoresort Praia do Forte, Brazil

Set amongst the rainforest of Bahia, northern Brazil, this is picture-perfect paradise at its finest – think white sandy beaches, warm turquoise waters and coconut trees as far as the eye can see. This idyllic eco-resort are big supporters of sustainable tourism and every care has been taken to preserve the natural environment. Additionally, the hotel runs a number of socio-environmental projects that guests are encouraged to learn about through activities



Campi Ya Kanzi, Kenya

In the shadow of Mount Kilimanjaro in the Chyulu Hills of southern Kenya lies boutique eco-lodge Campi Ya Kanzi. Offering luxury accommodation and incredible wildlife spotting, it is its forward-thinking approach to sustainable tourism that makes it stand out. From using renewable energy and offsetting carbon emissions to employing local people of the Maasai tribe, it is hardly surprising that they were first camp in Kenya to be gold rated by Ecotourism

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