

Telegraph Magazine

11 February 2017

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FIFTY HOTELS TO

fall in love

WITH (AND IN)...

From grand palaces to cosy hideaways and chic urban retreats, **Francesca Syz** lets us into the secrets of the best rooms, views and tables for two

Seaside

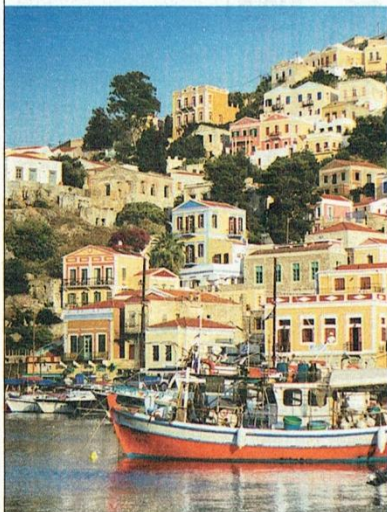
13. Hotel du Cap-Eden-Roc, Côte d'Azur

Hollywood goddess Rita Hayworth met playboy Prince Aly Khan at the Hotel du Cap-Eden-Roc in 1948. They married the following year. Still the most glamorous place to stay on the French Riviera, the hotel is tucked away on the southern tip of the Cap d'Antibes, its heavenly heated saltwater pool teetering gloriously on a cliff overlooking the Mediterranean.

Room to book: A Junior Suite in the main Hotel du Cap, with a terrace that's perfect for romantic breakfasts and candlelit dinners. Doubles from £468 (hdcer.com).

14. The Old Markets, Symi

There are many beautiful Greek islands, but few are a patch on Symi, a vision of neo-classical loveliness, within sight of the Turkish coast in the Dodecanese. Luckily, it has a hotel to match: The Old



Markets. Just up the hill from the harbour, it boasts beautiful bedrooms, and daily champagne breakfasts served on a glorious rooftop terrace.

Room to book: The Symi Suite has a private terrace and windows that frame an extraordinary harbour view. Doubles from £161 (theoldmarkets.com).

15. Albion House, Ramsgate

On a clear day, you can see across to France from Albion House, a retro-chic seaside inn on Ramsgate's East Cliff. Overlooking the Royal Harbour, it's ideal for a blustery weekend in the most stylish of surroundings. Expect excellent food in the Regency dining room and a cocktail bar with a baby grand piano.



Above
Hotel du
Cap-Eden-
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d'Azur

Left
The Old
Markets,
Symi

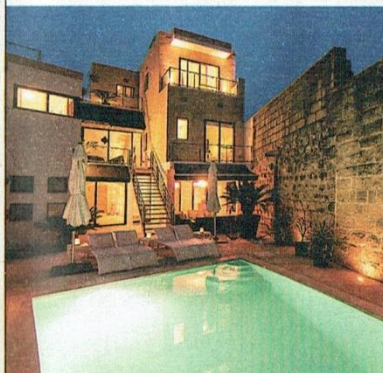
Right
ThirtySeven,
Gozo

Hollywood goddess Rita Hayworth met playboy Prince Aly Khan at the Hotel du Cap-Eden-Roc in 1948

Room to book: Little Victoria's Room for its huge, comfortable bed and perfect sunsets from a wraparound terrace. A young Princess Victoria recuperated in it after falling ill on a royal tour in 1835. Doubles from £100 (albionhouseramsgate.co.uk).

16. ThirtySeven, Gozo

A bohemian guesthouse forged from two village houses in rural Gozo, ThirtySeven was dreamt up by the Milanese fashion designer Giuseppe Piazzi and his wife, Patti. With multiple pools and leafy courtyards, it feels like a real retreat. The owners are passionate about food, and the breakfasts are fantastic.



Room to book: The Shanghai Junior Suite, a poolside bungalow with a private rooftop terrace. Doubles from £136 (thirtysevengozo.com).

17. Seaham Hall, County Durham

The most scandalous of poets, Lord Byron, married Annabella Milbanke in 1815 at Seaham Hall, which had been built by her father. This beautifully restored Georgian mansion is set in landscaped grounds that sweep down to the wild North Sea. Most people immediately hunker down in one of the hugely comfortable suites or the vast Serenity Spa.

Room to book: One of the Garden Suites, particularly Room 4, which has a private terrace with a wood-fired hot tub. Suites from £195, including full access to the spa (seaham-hall.co.uk).

18. Casa Angelina, Praiano, Amalfi Coast

Love the Amalfi Coast but can't bear crowds? Casa Angelina is the answer. At the end of a winding road in a sleepy former fishing village between Positano and Amalfi, it's friendly, whitewashed and for grown-ups only. There's a Morocco-inspired bar with a cocktail terrace, two pools and a restaurant. There's even a little private beach.

Room to book: Any with a sea view, so you can gaze at Positano and Capri. Doubles from £289 (casangelina.com).

19. Chapel House, Penzance

Making the most of Cornwall's amazing