

BRIDES

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guide*

100 best
honeymoon
destinations

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Turquoise

The Turquoise Holiday Company

SUMMER

AUBERGE DU SOLEIL* CALIFORNIA, USA

This legendary hotel in Northern California regularly attracts a glamorous clientele who flock here to drink wine, enjoy the scenery and unwind. The perfect stop on an all-American road trip, Auberge du Soleil is spread over 33 hillside acres in Napa Valley, enjoying spectacular views over the surrounding vineyards and olive groves. Breathtakingly romantic and luxurious, the hotel has 52 rooms, all of which have a Mediterranean-inspired décor. If you're looking to splash out, book one of the two large 'maisons', which have private outdoor Jacuzzis and steam showers for two. The gardens are stunning, as is the Auberge spa, where you can have signature therapies such as The Vineyard, where grapeseed products are used to exfoliate and massage you into blissed-out oblivion. Famed for its food, a visit to the hotel's restaurant is a must. **BOOK IT** Exsus (020 7337 9021; exsus.com) offers five nights at Auberge du Soleil from £1,500pp, including flights.



LA PALAZZETTA DEL VESCOVO UMBRIA, ITALY

Owned by quite possibly the loveliest couple in Italy, La Palazzetta del Vescovo is a small nine-room hotel close to Todi, in the sleepy Umbrian countryside. Set on the edge of a hillside with views stretching for miles, it has traditionally furnished rooms with large beds. Perugia, Assisi and Todi are all short drives away, while the surrounding countryside is wonderful for walking. The large swimming pool is fantastic, the home-cooked food is wonderful

and the atmosphere is more like staying in a friend's house than a hotel. If you're looking for anonymity on your honeymoon then La Palazzetta del Vescovo probably isn't for you. If, however, you want a friendly, relaxed atmosphere, then this is the place. **BOOK IT** Chic Retreats (chicretreats.com) offers doubles at La Palazzetta from approx £152. British Airways (ba.com) flies from London to Pisa from £92.90 return.

THE OBEROI LOMBOK INDONESIA

Luscious Lombok is the perfect island for honeymooners in search of a tropical Indonesian paradise. Less developed than neighbouring Bali, it's a place of idyllic beaches, slow-paced villages and stunning scenery. Set on a golden stretch of sand, surrounded by jungle, the Oberoi is just the place from which to experience the island. A down-to-earth resort with touches of glamour, it is relaxed and peaceful, with amazing staff for whom the

phrase 'service with a smile' must have been invented. All of the thatched villas and pavilions have huge bathrooms set in a private garden, while the pool is one of the most beautiful we have seen. Make the most of the fantastic Tokek Bar before heading to dinner at the Sunbird café to dine on giant prawns and fresh fish. **BOOK IT** Kuoni (01306 747008; kuoni.co.uk) offers seven nights at Oberoi Lombok from £1,519pp, including flights and transfers.

