



# 28 EUROPEAN HOTELS TO EXPLORE NOW

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BY CTH EDITORS

*From beach-front bars to palatial paradises, these European hotels have got it all. From new French hotels to Ibiza escapes, these alluring new hotels are just a hop, skip and a jump (flight) away. Check them out and check in for a break to remember.*

## 28 European Hotels We Love

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### 28. Château Capitoul

Think of the south of France and Narbonne is not a town that springs to mind. But for those yearning spring sunshine, the 'secret riviera' is a very good shout. Hoteliers Karl O'Hanlon and Anita Forte realised its potential and moved here some years ago. Buying up disused wineries they created three estates, breathing life back into wine production and renovating disused barns to create impeccably stylish villas. Château Capitoul is the latest, a sister property to Château les Carrasses and Château St Pierre de Serjac. Lying within an ancient landscape and natural park, Chateau Capitoul comprises an eight-bedroom hotel (in the main house) and 44 self-catering villas, a gastronomic restaurant, winery with tasting rooms, wine shop, informal brasserie and spa. Each villa looks out onto acres of vineyard and is styled with contemporary flair using natural, often reclaimed materials including terracotta roof tiles, traditional wooden shutters, oak beams and huge bay windows, framing extraordinary views. Fully equipped Italian kitchens and en suite bathrooms are enhanced by antiques and French furnishing. Guests often enquire about buying pieces of the furniture (both indoor and out) so Karl set up [Domaine Life](#) to meet demand. As well as a generous private heated pool for most villas, the estate has a 30m infinity version dotted with olive trees shading sun loungers (so much prettier than an umbrella), tennis court, and terraced Mediterranean gardens designed by renowned landscape designer James Basson. Château Capitoul is easily accessed via air and rail, while driving gives the option of bringing back some of the renowned Vignobles Bonfils wine. (Listen to the [House Guest podcast](#) with Karl O'Hanlon to hear more.)

**BOOK IT:** £195 per night including breakfast for a double room in main house. A 7-night stay in a 2-bedroom villa with private garden is from around £2269 to £4157 (low to high season). [chateaucapitoul.com](http://chateaucapitoul.com)