

THE TIMES

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The hot 100 best hotels in Europe

Ever get the urge just to take off? To find a lovely little hotel, full of character, charm and style, where you can kick back and enjoy a few days of real R&R? We're not talking your five-star Hiltons or super-swanky Mandarin Orientals here. No vast spas or cavernous meeting rooms. Just small(ish), largely independent bolt holes where the service is personal and the setting is perfect.

We do. Often. So we asked our writers to reveal where they go when the urge hits. The result is this guide to the 100 best bolt holes in Europe. Keep it with you and you'll never be stuck for the perfect getaway again.

Rates are per night for a double room. Where two prices are given, they are for low/high season

67 Vigilius Resort and spa, South Tyrol

You take a cable car up to the Vigilius... nought to 5,000ft in seven minutes, and not only are you on top of the world, but that top is all minimalist decor, cool, light, airy rooms and an awful lot of proper outdoor-indoor design. It's the sort of architecture that would make Kevin McCloud go ooh. The spa is amazing. The mountain walking is even better. 0473 556600, www.vigilius.it; from £280