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Best New Hotels for Romance 2015



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If you believe that new love calls for new digs, this list of the best new hotels for romance will entice the two of you to visit. From laid-back beach resorts to sophisticated city escapes, a down-home mountain retreat to the coolest new ship at sea, there's a place for you. All either launched in 2014 or are opening in 2015... so what are you waiting for?



Sandals Barbados beach. Sandals Resorts.

1. Sandals Barbados - Caribbean

The [Sandals Resorts](#) juggernaut continues, energized as the founder's son, Adam Stewart, takes a larger role in planning and building new all-inclusive properties and upgrading

existing ones. Open January 2015, Sandals Barbados edges the brand's luxury quotient higher after spending \$65 million on the property. Aside from the gorgeous beach, there are eleven restaurants (including a sushi bar, Butch's Steakhouse, and the Bombay Club Indian restaurant) and the longest lagoon swimming pool in the Caribbean to lure couples from the resort's 280 stylish rooms and swim-up suites.

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2. The Cromwell - Las Vegas

[Las Vegas](#) is one of the few places left that isn't geared to juveniles. Although we witnessed the implosion of [Atlantic City](#) as a gambling destination last year, Vegas is thriving. The Cromwell



Chef of the namesake restaurant. Photo credit: Erik Kabik.

[Vegas](#) and [The Delano](#) are also worth a look) but it is the only one to have a restaurant helmed by Giada de Laurentiis of cooking show fame. And unlike other celebrity chefs who slap their name on countless eateries, at this writing The Cromwell was Giada's only roost. So come, mangia, and savor the city!

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The Brando in French Polynesia. Bernard Rickenbach.

richness. Each of the 35 deluxe villas has its own private beach area and plunge pool. Should you feel the occasional need to commune with other humans, there's a lagoon-view bar, beach bar, pool, organic garden, library, pearl shop, boutique, and water sports activities, along with restaurants offering Polynesian and French cuisine.

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Turquoise-tinged bedroom with a view of the matching Caribbean Sea. Rosewood Hotels.

brand already boasts top-rated romantic hotels in the Caribbean (including the unfortunately named but swooningly terrific [Rosewood Little Dix Bay](#)) and Mexico (such as [Las Ventanas al Paraiso](#)).

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isn't the only hotel to have opened in the desert city this year ([SLS Las](#)

[Vegas](#) and [The Delano](#) are also worth a look) but it is the only one to have a restaurant helmed by Giada de Laurentiis of cooking show fame. And unlike other celebrity chefs who slap their name on countless eateries, at this writing The Cromwell was Giada's only roost. So come, mangia, and savor the city!

[3. The Brando - French Polynesia](#)

How does a private-island resort on a gorgeous atoll 30 miles north of [Tahiti](#) sound? On land leased by Marlon ("The Godfather") Brando in 1999, this sustainable all-inclusive property, which opened in July 2014, preserves Tetiaroa's natural beauty, biodiversity, and cultural

richness. Each of the 35 deluxe villas has its own private beach area and plunge pool.

Should you feel the occasional need to commune with other humans, there's a lagoon-

view bar, beach bar, pool, organic garden, library, pearl shop, boutique, and water sports

activities, along with restaurants offering Polynesian and French cuisine.

[4. Rosewood at Baha Mar - Bahamas](#)

You're going to be hearing a lot about the Baha Mar development in the months to come. Some \$3.5 billion was poured into this [Caribbean](#) destination alongside Cable Beach in the sunny [Bahamas](#). It will feature four hotels including a Grand Hyatt and one with a casino. But our money's on the Rosewood property. The

brand already boasts top-rated romantic hotels in the Caribbean (including the

unfortunately named but swooningly terrific [Rosewood Little Dix Bay](#)) and Mexico (such

as [Las Ventanas al Paraiso](#)).



Raffles Hotels.

[5. Raffles Istanbul - Turkey](#)

I worry about [Istanbul](#). It's one of the world's great cities, yet President [Erdogan](#)'s fundamentalist, [regressive](#), and authoritarian leanings along with increasing anti-semitism make me think twice about revisiting the city. Yet it should be on everyone's bucket list. From

[Topkapi Palace](#) to the [Grand Bazaar](#) to the [Blue Mosque](#) and [Hagia Sofia](#), there's no place like it. Istanbul people are warm and wonderful and the [food](#) is fresh, delicious, and healthful. So treat yourselves to a stay at the new Raffles Istanbul, which opened in September 2014, and live like a sultan for a few nights.

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Hyatt Hotels.

6. Hyatt Zilara Cancun - Mexico

Simply want some beach, perhaps with some guacamole, chips and margaritas on the side? The all-suite, all-inclusive, adults-only Hyatt Zilara Cancun (formerly The Royal [Cancun](#)) is located on the widest stretch of sandy shore in the hotel

zone. It's not a getaway-from-it-all kind of hotel; it's more a be-in-the-thick-of-the-action place. Fifteen minutes from downtown, it's accessible to Cancun's golf courses, shopping malls, restaurants and nightlife.

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[7. Park Hyatt New York - NYC](#)

Does love make you feel on top of the world? [New York City](#)'s Park Hyatt rises to 90 stories (although the hotel occupies just the first 25). Opened in August, it's a coolly elegant modern hotel decorated by designers-of-the-moment Yabu Pushelberg. Art lovers will find 350

Pool with pumped-in music from Carnegie Hall.
Susan Breslow Sardone.

surrounded by a city vista will seduce you into the water. The hotel stands directly across from Carnegie Hall and the Russian Tea Room restaurant, but it's truly accessible to all the riches and culture that a trip to the city offers.

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silk restaurant. Royal Caribbean International.

training! — on a high-tech wonder at sea that also offers a choice of 18 restaurants and a variety of nightlife, [Quantum of the Seas](#) will float your boat. Since families with kids love it, too, there is an adults-only solarium pool under a retractable roof where you can swim and sun free from children. [More »](#)

[8. Quantum of the Seas - Cruise](#)

If you're a moonlight-and-roses couple who believes the only sounds you want to hear are violin strings and your own (heavy) breathing, the newest ship from Royal Caribbean isn't for you. Yet if you two crave an action-packed experience — sky-diving! surfing! bumper cars! trapeze



The hotel resembles a train passing through the Great Smoky Mountains. Dollywood.

Forge, [Tennessee](#) theme attractions including Dollywood. DreamMore Resort is embedded with the performer's memories of good times spent singing and spinning tales. Scattered around the 100-acre family-friendly site are landscaped gardens, storytelling spots, fire pits, hammocks and swings. [More »](#)

[9. Dolly Parton's DreamMore Resort - Tennessee](#)

Are you country-music lovers with affection for the great outdoors and a taste for down-home hospitality? Dolly Parton's first hotel opens in the summer of 2015 within spittin' distance of her Pigeon



Room Gasparini. Prijeko Palace.

[10. Prijeko Palace - Croatia](#)

Couples who've already visited the best-known capitals of Europe now are drawn to charming [Dubrovnik](#), "the pearl of the Adriatic." Here you can lodge in an authentic medieval palace that dates back to 1475 but has been updated for comfort

with plush mattresses, fluffy bathrobes, and wi-fi. Located in the middle of UNESCO-designated Old Town, Prijeko Palace contains nine individually designed guest rooms furnished with sensual silk textiles and original artwork. Quaff cocktails on the rooftop terrace or in the hotel restaurant and wine cellar. [More »](#)



The private island of Félicité. Six Senses Hotels Resorts Spas.

[11. Six Senses Zil Pasyon](#)

Lovers have long had a fascination with the Seychelles, those 115 islands in the Indian Ocean that comprise an archipelago more than a thousand miles off the eastern coast of Africa. No wonder Prince William and the Duchess of Cambridge honeymooned here. So white in the sun that sunglasses are a real necessity, the beaches of this eternally

summer destination are considered among the world's most beautiful — and they lie outside the cyclone belt. In this paradise, Six Senses Zil Pasyon debuts on the lush private island of Félicité in the spring or summer of 2015. Two restaurants, a bar, shops, a gym and swimming pool will be among the seductions for couples craving to get away from it all on this 652-acre haven. The 28 one-bedroom villas, 2 two-bedroom villas and 17 private residences all have a swimming private pool.

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