

BUDAPEST | BHUTAN | MADRID | ST BARTHS

# Condé Nast Traveller

WIN  
A VILLA  
VACATION  
IN THE  
MALDIVES

THE LAST WORD IN TRAVEL

MIDDLE EAST

**RAJASTHAN  
BY RAIL**

*Neighbourhood watch*

**WEST BERLIN'S  
RENAISSANCE**

**STOCKHOLM,  
HELSINKI,  
COPENHAGEN**

*Where to shop  
in Europe's  
design capitals*

*At the edge of the  
desert in Luxor,  
Ala Dhadu*

**SAND  
CASTLE**

*Road trip to the mystical  
Rub al Khali desert*

SEPTEMBER 2014 | AED 25 | BHD 2.5  
KWD 2 | OMR 2.5 | QAR 2.5



**Vacation with  
a conscience  
in the Maldives**





# Stylish Paris stays

Five offbeat retreats at the heart of the Right Bank

## FABULOUS FORMER FACTORY

### Hôtel Fabric

11TH ARRONDISSEMENT

This handsome, 33-room hotel occupies a revamped factory in Oberkampf-Ménilmontant, once a metalworking area and now a foodie hotspot. The building has plenty of original industrial features, including cast-iron columns and large windows, but designers Agnès Louboutin and Patrice Henry, known for their flea-market finds, have updated the look. There's a mix of furniture styles in the lobby – Eames chairs, Chesterfield sofa, antique travelling trunks used as side tables – and the breakfast room is dominated by a large star illuminated with exposed light bulbs (it's from Recycle, a local vintage shop). The crowd is just as eclectic: young couples and hip European families tucking into croissants and artisanal jams at breakfast, or helping themselves to drinks from the honesty bar in the evening. Graphic colour schemes – pink, green and orange – spice up the bedrooms, and showers are encrusted with starry LED lights. There's no restaurant and room service is outsourced and expensive (AED 86 for a Caesar salad), so your money is better spent in the hotel's tiny but well-run spa, which uses all-natural potions by Les Bains de Marrakech.

Doubles from AED 705; 0033-1-4357 2700, [hotelfabric.com](http://hotelfabric.com)



*The crowd is just as eclectic: young couples and hip European families tucking into croissants and artisanal jams at breakfast, or helping themselves to drinks from the honesty bar in the evening*



## HIP HOME AWAY FROM HOME

**Hôtel Paradis**

10TH ARRONDISSEMENT

With its reputation for shady dive bars, wholesale clothing outlets and, more recently, cool nightclubs, the 10th arrondissement might seem like a curious place for a hotel promising Zen-like calm. But this 38-room charmer in a converted fur shop/derelict motel is on rue des Petites-Écuries, one of the quietest streets in the neighbourhood. The owners enlisted designer Dorothée Meilichzon, best known for her work on Experimental Cocktail Clubs in London, New York and Ibiza, to rethink the interiors, and she came up with a mix of textbook Scandinavian minimalism with subtle riffs on French elegance (faux carved mouldings in the downstairs sitting room; original exposed beams in the top-floor suite, with its unparalleled view of the Sacré Coeur). There are bespoke rugs and houndstooth fabric headboards in the bedrooms and whimsical, retro-chic wallpaper in the corridors; and although the ceilings on the upper floors are comically low, it all adds to the feel of a cosy Parisian *pied-à-terre*. This homey atmosphere is helped by the Kusmi tea in the rooms and tasty homemade cakes and yoghurts freely available in the breakfast bar. There is no restaurant, but the hotel is close to plenty of good bistros including laid-back next-door neighbour Vivant Table, and Le Richer. *Doubles from AED 540; 0033-1-4523 0822, hotelparadisparis.com*

## MAD ABOUT THE MOVIES

**Hotel 123 Sébastopol**

2ND ARRONDISSEMENT

The film world has been one of interior designer Philippe Maidenberg's passions for many years, so it was hardly surprising when he was given the task of transforming this ▶

